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Wednesday, February 22, 2012
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News worth sharing.

Councillor slams \$1M plan

► Effort to deal with long-term challenges, 50% population growth by 2060 gets frosty reception from Hubley

Ottawa spent \$1 million on three new documents that outline long-term visions for the National Capital Region — details not included.

“Choosing our Future,” a joint Ottawa, Gatineau and National Capital Commission project start-

ed in 2004, concerns all areas of life in the region. The plans contain strategies — such as “retrofit the suburbs” and “celebrate food,” but for one councillor it was all a bit too obvious.

Coun. Allan Hubley said he was

concerned about the money the city spent on the documents.

“I am looking for some value for money here and I am seeing things like “celebrate food,” said Hubley. “We do that. Trust me, I’m living proof. I love food. We don’t need to

spend a million dollars to be told I need to celebrate food.”

Coun. David Chernushenko said the way the report is written makes it easy to dismiss as merely “nice words,” but he wants a strategy to bring the ideas to life.

Deputy city manager Nancy Schepers told councillors the plans are “a framework for decision-making,” and it is up to them to put the ideas in the plans they make.

● JESSICA SMITH

Protesting. Pavement



► A machine fells a tree near Highway 105, south of Wakefield, on Tuesday, clearing an access road for work on the A5 highway extension.

Protesters try to block highway extension

Crews began cutting trees south of Wakefield yesterday, beginning what protesters are calling the “chainsaw massacre” of Gatineau Park. Contractors cleared trees and made an access road so work on the A5 highway extension could begin. Protesters in a group calling themselves A5X climbed trees and confirmed they intend to block access to some areas of the park.

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Woman pleads guilty to manslaughter

Simon Hubbard died on the first day of 2011 from an 11-centimetre-deep stab wound delivered by a homeless, crack-smoking prostitute wielding a 10.5-centimetre-long kitchen knife.

On Tuesday, Jennifer Bird, 28, pleaded guilty to manslaughter in the incident.

An agreed statement of facts read into court yesterday told the story of how Hubbard had gone out that fateful New Year's Eve to a pub with friends, how they had parted company and how he hooked up with Bird, taking her home to his basement apartment in New Edinburgh in the early morn-

ing hours of Jan. 1, 2011.

Court also heard that, at around 4 a.m., a neighbour overheard an argument that stopped abruptly.

Hubbard would soon stumble out of his apartment with multiple stab wounds but only one fatal wound to his heart. He wandered Stanley Street,

approaching a neighbour's door but never getting there. He was fully clothed in what he had worn to the pub.

Bird's lawyer, Jeff Langevin, said his client is remorseful about Hubbard's death.

A sentencing hearing is set for June 4.

SEAN MCKIBBIN



► Jennifer Bird

Centre invests in new name

► Invest Ottawa flagship of Ottawa's \$5.5-million economic-development strategy: Mayor Watson ► Centre to encourage post-secondary students to stay in city, start own companies



JOE LOFARO
@METRONEWS.CA

Local entrepreneurs applauded the opening of Invest Ottawa, the city's re-branded economic development centre that will replace the Ottawa Centre for Regional Innovation (OCRI).

OCRI has been around since 1983, fostering primarily tech-focused innovation in the region. But now the revamped organization will support local startups and grow existing businesses in a variety of knowledge-based industries, such as life sciences, defence and security, and film.

"We'll start to stream the high-potential growth businesses deeper and

deeper into our programs," said Jeff Westeinde, Invest Ottawa co-chair and local entrepreneur.

Those programs include entrepreneurial mentorship, business-incubation services and expansion.

One local up-and-coming e-commerce business, Shopify, says it will also work with Invest Ottawa to offer mentoring support for local startups.

"We know what it's like to pitch great U.S. investors, to bring them up to Canada and to close deals with them," said Harley Finkelstein, Shopify co-founder. "If we can help by making those introductions to interesting entrepreneurs and companies here in Ottawa, we're definitely going to do that."



► Jeff Westeinde, Invest Ottawa co-chair and local entrepreneur, gives a thumbs-up at the official opening of Invest Ottawa Tuesday.



A generation of pet parrots, their novelty long worn off, has been largely neglected and forgotten. Scan code for story.

To scan 2D barcodes in Metro, download the free ScanLife app at 2dscan.com.

On the web at
metronews.ca

This is Portland, not Portlandia: Punk gladiators ride all manner of junk bikes into a mosh pit of metal and rubber. Watch at metronews.ca/video

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CAPE warns of impending recession due to cutbacks

► Cutbacks, painted as inevitable, actually the result of bad fiscal decision-making, such as lowering of GST, union charges



JOE LOFARO
@METRONEWS.CA

Trimming the federal budget could push the country back into a recession, says a new report from the union representing government economists, but a senior economist with the Fraser Institute says belt-tightening is just what Canada's economy needs.

The Canadian Association of Professional Employees (CAPE) report said

Canada's gross domestic product (GDP) would shrink by more than \$10 billion if the Conservatives follow through on cutting \$8 billion in federal spending.

The group charges that almost half of the shrinkage (\$4.5 billion) would be in Ontario.

"The very real effect of these cutbacks, beyond the abstract level of the GDP, will be a reduction in the quality of life enjoyed by Canadian men, women and children," said Claude

"The very real effect of these cutbacks ... will be a reduction in the quality of life enjoyed by Canadian men, women and children."

CLAUDE POIRIER, CAPE PRESIDENT

Poirier, CAPE president.

But Niels Veldhuis at the Fraser Institute, said economic literature suggests reduced government

spending would help the economy.

"In 1995, the then-Liberal government significantly reduced expenditures to balance the budget and it did not lead to a recession," said Veldhuis.

"In fact, it actually was one of the reasons why Canada did so well in the late 1990s and throughout the 2000s."

He said the only way to attack the deficit is to bring the spending back to pre-recession levels.



Heritage Day

► Michael Schulz poses with Kristina Schulz at a booth inside Jean Pigott Place Tuesday showcasing the historic Watson's Mill in Manotick for Heritage Day. Heritage groups donned 19th-century costumes on Tuesday to mark the national celebration of Heritage Day.

JOE LOFARO/METRO

Going back in time

Harkat's lawyer says hearing is 'unfair'

A lawyer for Mohamed Harkat says the security-certificate process being used to deport the Algerian refugee is unconstitutional.

Harkat, a former Ottawa pizza-delivery man, faces removal from

Canada under a certificate that declares him a security threat due to alleged terrorist links.

He denies any involvement with political extremism.

Lawyer Norm Boxall is telling the Federal Court of Appeal the security-certificate system is fundamentally unfair because Harkat doesn't know details of the allegations against him.

The Supreme Court of Canada struck down the system five years ago, say-

ing it violated the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

But the government revamped the process and reissued certificates against Harkat and others in early 2008.

A judge ruled in late 2010 that the retooled certificate system was constitutional. Harkat is challenging that ruling this week.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



For more local news, visit metronews.ca/ottawa

Water-rate-hike vote set for today

City council is set to vote on a six per cent increase to the water and wastewater rate today after the environment committee's unanimous approval of the increase Tuesday.

The increase is about 75 cents a week, boosting the average household bill from \$636 a year to about \$668. A staff report also recommends cumulative increases that will

up the rate 74 per cent over 10 years.

No residents voiced concerns about the hike at the committee meeting, something committee chair Coun. Maria MacRae said may be because people realize that Ottawa's tap water is good value for money.

"Water is the new oil," she said. "People on this planet don't have enough access to good, clean,

pure water, and in Ottawa we do have that."

If council grants approval, the city will also begin documenting water and wastewater rates and projects in multi-year budgets and will study how to harmonize the water rate across the city — eliminating the lower water rates written into some commercial agreements.

● JESSICA SMITH

Government of Canada / Gouvernement du Canada

PARTICIPANT RECRUITMENT

Volunteers needed

Health Canada Study

Researchers are inviting **Caucasian Canadians** and **South Asian Canadians** living in the National Capital Region that are **20 to 79 years of age** to participate in a study to find out:

- the effects of diet, skin colour, and season on blood levels of Vitamin D, Omega-3 and cholesterol.

Participants will be required to make two visits (April and September 2012) to a blood clinic held on weekends. **Results of the study will be provided free of charge** and participants will be **compensated (\$30)** for joining.

For more information and to join the study, contact Dr. Nimal Ratnayake, Ph.D. of the Nutrition Research Division of Health Canada (613-954-1396 or nimal.ratnayake@hc-sc.gc.ca).

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Pension time bomb?

► Minister to younger Canadians: Reforms now — or you'll pay later

The federal government on Tuesday aimed its pension-cutting pitch at younger Canadians.

Human Resources Minister Diane Finley said in Toronto the coming federal budget will define major changes to old-age security, the program that gives about \$500 a month to 98 per cent of people over 65.

Unless the government acts now, younger Canadians will face impossible choices of higher taxes, higher deficits or fewer social programs, she said.

"We cannot allow ourselves to be pegged into a situation where we are faced with a choice between the country's financial security, and our commitment to aging Canadians who have worked long and hard to build this great nation."

Finley added: "We will



► Human Resources Minister Diane Finley, pictured in Toronto on Tuesday, gave her personal guarantee that current retirees won't be touched.

need to ensure that our government has the fiscal room to meet the various needs of an aging population ... without putting an undue tax burden on younger generations."

While other countries have acted to increase the age of eligibility to keep in

"Pushing seniors into poverty is not leadership."

NEW DEMOCRAT MP
MATTHEW KELLWAY, SPEAKING
AFTER FINLEY'S SPEECH

line with aging populations, Canada has stood

still, she said. "It's ticking along as if things haven't changed demographically in 50 years."

Finley did not say how changes would affect low-income seniors who depend on pension benefits to stay above water.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

RESPONSE TO CULL

New rules protect sled dogs

A working dog's life has just got a little easier.

Almost two years after a gruesome sled-dog cull, the B.C. government has introduced another layer of protection for working dogs.

The Sled Dog Code of Practice sets out standards of care for

everything from health, nutrition and housing to working conditions, transportation and euthanasia.

The new rules come after the B.C. chapter of the SPCA uncovered a mass grave of 56 sled dogs near Whistler last year. The case drew international outrage.

Marcie Moriarty, general manager of cruelty investigations, said the regulations will "provide minimum standards that will improve working dogs' welfare."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Parents fit for trial

The parents of a toddler whose remains were found in a suitcase in Jamaica have been declared fit to stand trial.

The couple appeared in a Jamaican court and were remanded until March 2.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Veterans get pledge

Ottawa will make it easier for veterans to understand their disability benefits.

It promises to improve the information given to veterans as to why they have been awarded or denied benefits.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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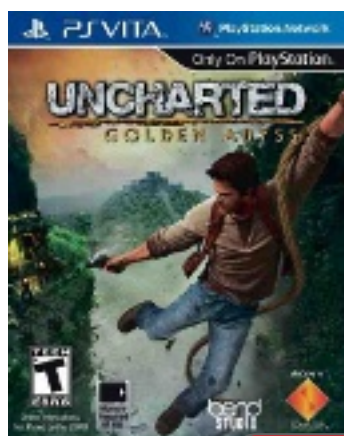


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Afghans outraged over burned Qur'ans

► President appoints delegate to investigate

► U.S. forces to be trained in handling religious items

MUSADEQ SADEQ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

► Afghan protesters at an anti-U.S. demonstration in Afghanistan.



The U.S. apologized Tuesday for the burning of Muslim holy books that had been pulled from the shelves of a detention-centre library adjoining a major base in eastern Afghanistan because they contained extremist messages or inscriptions.

The White House echoed military officials in saying that the burning of Qur'ans and other Islamic reading material that had been tossed in a pile of garbage was an accident.

But more than 2,000 Afghans gathered outside the Bagram Air Base, one of the largest U.S. bases in Afghanistan, to protest the

incident, which stoked rising anti-foreign sentiment and fueled Afghan claims that foreign troops disrespect their culture and Islamic religion even as the Americans and other NATO forces prepare to withdraw by the end of 2014. Demonstrators shouted, "Die, die,

foreigners!" Some fired rifles, and others threw rocks at the gate and set fires.

U.S. Gen. John Allen, the top commander of American and NATO forces in Afghanistan, said the books had been mistakenly given to troops to be burned at a garbage pit at Bagram, north of the Afghan capital, Kabul. "It was not a decision that was made with respect to the faith of Islam. It was a mistake. It was an error," Allen said.

The Qur'an is the most sacred object in the daily lives of Muslims and burning it is considered an offence against God.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mouth. Shut



► A Palestinian woman holds a poster with a drawing depicting Khader Adnan, a member of the organization Islamic Jihad, during a demonstration in Jerusalem on Tuesday. Adnan has been on a hunger strike for two months.

BERNAT ARMANGUE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Freedom to end hunger strike

Islamic Jihad member Khader Adnan agreed to end his 66-day hunger strike to protest his imprisonment without charge, after reaching a deal with Israel that will free him in April, the Israeli Justice Ministry said Tuesday.

Food delivery to Somalia blocked: Army

The Kenyan army is blaming al-Shabab for blocking the movement of food and other goods into southern Somalia, which officials say is in the beginning stages of a humanitarian crisis. Khadra Muhamud Aden, a Somali woman in her 80s, says food supplies are run-

ning low because there is no way to transport food from either the Kenyan border or the Somali port of Kismayo because of fighting between Kenyan troops and the al-Qaida-affiliated militant group al-Shabab. The cutting of food supplies has slowed the Kenyan army's advance toward Kismayo. Troops are delivering food aid in an attempt to win favour in areas. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Judge defends abortion ruling

A retired Massachusetts judge is defending her decision to order a schizophrenic woman to have an abortion and be sterilized against her wishes. Christina Harms said she believes the woman would have chosen to have an abortion if she had been mentally competent.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Scream painting could fetch \$80M

► NYC art auction to sell Edvard Munch's coveted Scream painting ► Only piece still left in private hands

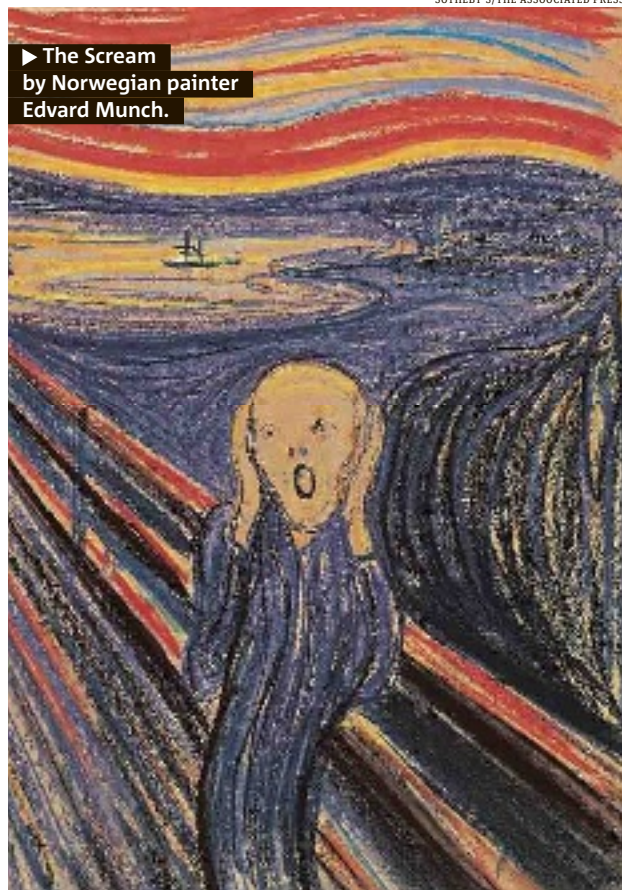
One of four versions of Edvard Munch's masterpiece *The Scream* will be sold this spring in New York, Sotheby's auction house announced Tuesday.

Sotheby's estimates that the work, which has become a modern icon of human anxiety, will sell for \$80 million or more.

The 1895 drawing of a man holding his head and screaming under a streaked, blood-red sky is being sold by Norwegian businessman Petter Olsen, whose father was a friend and patron of Munch's. It is the only version of *The Scream* still in private hands.

"I have lived with this work all my life, and its power and energy have only increased with time," Olsen said. "Now, however, I feel the moment has come to offer the rest of the world a chance to own and appreciate this remarkable work, which is the only version of *The Scream* not in the collection of a Norwegian museum."

The work will lead Sotheby's impressionist and modern sale on May 2. Olsen said proceeds will go toward the establishment of a new museum, art centre and hotel in Hvitsten, Norway,



► The Scream by Norwegian painter Edvard Munch.

where Olsen's father and Munch were neighbours.

A price tag of \$80 million would be among the highest-ever for an artwork. According to Sotheby's, a total of eight works have sold for \$80 million or more at auction. The record is \$106.5 million for Picasso's

Nude, Green Leaves, and Bust, sold in 2010 by Christie's in New York.

The director of the National Museum in Oslo, Audun Eckhoff, told The Associated Press that Norwegian authorities approved the Munch sale a few months ago.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CRIMINAL CHARGES

Ex-IMF chief questioned over prostitution probe

French police questioned former International Monetary Fund chief Dominique Strauss-Kahn all day Tuesday in a probe into a suspected hotel-prostitution ring.

Strauss-Kahn, a one-

time French presidential hopeful whose chances were derailed by a sexual-assault accusation in New York, arrived at the police station in the northern city of Lille for a prearranged morning appointment. He hadn't emerged by Tuesday night and French media reported that he would be held overnight.

Police are probing a suspected prostitution ring in France and neighbouring Belgium that has implicated police and other officials.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Royals' puppy name revealed

British royal officials say Prince William and the Duchess of Cambridge have named their black cocker spaniel puppy Lupo.

The palace says William and the Kate Middleton both like the name, derived from the Latin word for wolf.

The royals got the puppy several months ago.

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Colombia 3 ⁹ ¢/min	Mexico 1 ⁹ ¢/min	Trinidad 4 ⁹ ¢/min
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DIGITAL DECREE

UK court OK's serving legal claims via Facebook

Status update: You're sued.

British lawyers in a commercial dispute were given permission to serve a suit against a defendant via Facebook last week.

Justice Nigel Teare permitted the unconventional method of service during a pre-trial hearing into a case that pits two investment managers against a brokerage firm they accuse of overcharging them.

A former trader and an ex-broker, Fabio De Biase and Anjam Ahmad, are also alleged to have been in on the scam.

Jenni Jenkins, who

represents Ahmad, said lawyers in the case had been trying to track De Biase in order to serve him with legal documents.

The lawyers didn't have his email address, so they applied for permission to send him the claim through Facebook.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market moment

TSX



+ 165.06
(12,623.36)

Dollar



- 0.43¢
(100.34¢ US)

Oil



+ \$2.60 US
(\$105.84 US)

Natural gas

\$2.63 US
(- 6¢ US)

Gold
\$1,758.50 US
(+ \$32.60 US)

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. TUESDAY

RIM releases PlayBook update

DAVE CHIDLEY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Company still seen as lagging far behind in competitive tablet market

Ten months after the release of Research in Motion's first tablet, the device finally has an app to access email.

But analysts say it may be too late for the Waterloo-based company to make a dent in the tablet market, particularly with a new iPad rumoured to be on the way, possibly within weeks.

RIM released an update for its PlayBook tablet Tuesday, adding a host of features including the ability to access email without connecting to a BlackBerry or using a web-based account. The email app can

consolidate corporate and personal accounts as well as messages from social networks, including Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn.

"It's just so difficult to break into this market or really significantly change it at this point," said Mark Tauschek, lead research analyst for Info-Tech Research Group.

The 2.0 version of the PlayBook operating system also includes web-browser enhancements, new calendar, contacts and video-chat apps, and an updated version of BlackBerry Bridge. That app allows users to control a BlackBer-



► An employee holds a BlackBerry PlayBook tablet at Research in Motion's annual meeting in July 2011.

ry as though it were a remote control for a PlayBook. Users can also open a

document on a BlackBerry and have it viewed on a PlayBook. THE CANADIAN PRESS

December sales slump despite discounts

Canadian shoppers reined in spending before Christmas this year as retail sales slumped 0.2 per cent in De-

cember despite apparent deep discount sales from stores.

The fall-off followed a re-

vised 0.4 per cent pop in November, an indication that shoppers had both completed their Christmas

shopping early and were cautious consumers during the holiday season, analysts said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of Alterna Savings and Credit Union Limited (Alterna Savings) will be held on Monday, April 16, 2012 at the Ottawa Convention Centre, Ottawa Salon, 55 Colonel By Drive, Ottawa, Ontario, and will be simultaneously transmitted via video conference to the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, North Building, 255 Front Street West, Toronto, Ontario. Registration will start at 5:00 p.m. and the meeting will start at 6:00 p.m.

The Annual Meeting is being held to:

1. Vote on proposed amendments to the By-law of Alterna Savings
2. Receive reports
3. Receive information respecting the financial position of Alterna Savings and the results of its operations
4. Appoint an auditor
5. Elect directors

More information on the agenda, the Board candidates and the recommendation of the Nominating Committee will be available at www.alterna.ca and at Alterna Savings branches on February 22, 2012. The audited financial statements, the report of the Finance and Audit Committee and the report of the external auditor will be available at the Alterna Savings branches and offices and at www.alterna.ca on April 2, 2012.

The members of record of Alterna Savings as at February 16, 2012 and 18 years of age or more may cast their ballot on the proposed amendments to the By-law and on the election of directors by using one of the following methods:

- Electronic vote, available from March 1 to April 12, 2012 at www.alterna.ca;
- In-branch vote at all branches of Alterna Savings, from March 1 to April 12, 2012, during normal business hours;
- In person at the April 16, 2012 Annual Meeting in Ottawa or in Toronto.

Members will need a passcode in order to vote electronically. Passcodes will be available through your Alterna representative beginning March 1, 2012.

Members will be requested to present identification to be eligible to vote.

Madeleine Brilliant
Corporate Secretary
February 22, 2012


Alterna Savings

Doubts remain after Greek bailout approved

A second, \$172-billion US bailout and a deep debt writeoff for financially stricken Greece will ward off a financial disaster in Europe.

But Economists only give the deal a slim chance of putting the country on the path to economic recovery — and steadying its place in Europe's currency

THANASSIS STAVRAKIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

► Greek Finance Minister Evangelos Venizelos



union.

Agreement on the bailout, reached early Tues-

day after an all-night summit of finance ministers seven months after it was first proposed, will give Greece \$172 billion US in loans through 2014 from other eurozone governments and the International Monetary Fund. It's the country's second bailout, following a previous rescue in 2010 that didn't return the country to solvency.

The agreement also assumes that banks and investors owed money by Greece will take new bonds that reduce their holdings by more than half.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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AND THE AWARD FOR LARGEST DEMOGRAPHIC GOES TO ...

JUST SAYIN' ...

PAUL SULLIVAN
METRO



The Oscars are coming up this Sunday.

I love the Oscars — the glitz, the fun, the drama, the suspense.

Of course, when my favourite movie doesn't win and some piece of schmalz does, I'm left braying at the TV: "Who voted for Driving Miss Daisy? Who are these people? Don't they know anything?"

Now, thanks to the LA Times, I have the answer, which is: People Just Like Me.

After an exhaustive and pointless investigation — pointless because even though millions are starving and the planet is in peril, the LA Times is squandering precious dwindling journalistic resources on revealing the demographic makeup of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences — the results confirm your worst nightmare.

Ninety-four per cent of the people who vote the Oscars are white. Seventy-seven per cent are male. Their median age is 62, and just 14 per cent of the membership is under 50.

Two per cent are black.

This explains a lot. Like why Steven Spielberg must be nominated for something every year, even if it's War Horse. Steven Spielberg is the king of all the old white guys.

It explains why your little indie fave did not get nominated for best picture. Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close, which stars Tom Hanks, the duke of all the old white guys, did.

It explains why Bob Hope hosted the Oscars 18 times and why Billy Crystal's back this year, after Oscar's tragic experiment with the under-50 demographic last year. Remember James Franco and Anne Hathaway? Why send a couple of dumb kids out to do an old white guy's job when you can get Billy?

Eddie Murphy was supposed to host the Oscars this year, but quit to support show producer Brett Ratner (old white guy) who was fired for an alleged racial slur. How's that for irony?

Anyway, now that Billy's back, order has been restored in the old-white-guy universe, and we can get on with voting for Steve.

The problem, as anyone who ever hangs out in west L.A. knows, is that almost everyone in the movie business is an old white guy, and it's really hard to break in unless, like their descendants, you "know somebody." So if you're black, Latino, female and — especially — under 50, shut up and go to Sundance.

That said, the boys are suckers for interracial drama (see Driving Miss Daisy). And The Help, which takes a timely, fearless look at interracial drama circa 1963, is nominated this year. So my peeps are going to have a tough time deciding between that and Steve Who Must Be Nominated.

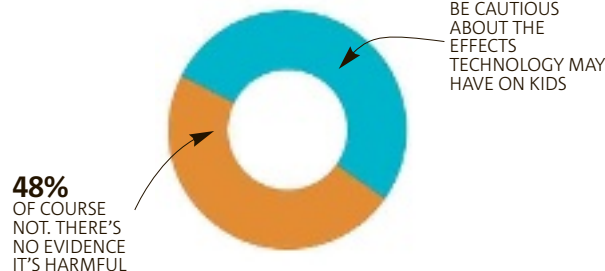
My money's on The Help. We may be old, but we're enlightened.

Read more of Paul Sullivan's columns at metronews.ca/justsaying



Register at
metropolitanpanel.ca
and take the quick poll

Do you think Wi-Fi should be banned in schools?



Local tweets



- **@nicolestoreslaw:** Making crepes with mushroom & Gruyere in honour of Shrove Tuesday. Also in honour of my love of carbs.
- **@awhitef557:** It's shrove Tuesday! Pancake Tuesday! The kick off to lent, or, for my atheist friends, aunt jemima's birthday. Either way, dig in!
- **@_sammeatsix:** #ReplaceBandNamesWithPancake Pancake Day. SEE WHAT I
- DID THERE? DO YOU SEE WHAT I DID THERE
- **@tweepwife:** So @GaryChampagne just made us pancakes in honour of Shrove Tues. yummm. And I'm drinking the last wine for forty days...
- **@FairTradeOttawa:** Shrove Tuesday = pancakes for dinner. Throw in some #Fairtrade #sugar, #chocolate chips and #vanilla. #CatholicismWow!
- **@JimWatsonOttawa:** Thanks to Emmanuel United Church for your kind hospitality at Shrove Tuesday. New Church hall looks great! #ottcity

Daily Zoom

Incredible bubble



Photographer makes 'pop art'

MACROPHOTOGRAPHY. It's the humble bubble, revealed in extraordinary, psychedelic detail. Amateur photographer Jane Thomas's close-up shots capture the stunning patterns that form in soapy water before it is blown out through an ordinary bubble wand. Thomas told Metro she discovered "bubble art" while washing dishes.

● MWN

60 seconds



Jane Thomas, 58, retired music teacher and amateur photographer from Ayreshire, southwest Scotland.

How did you discover "bubble art"?

I was doing the washing

up! I saw some soap suds inside a grill pan. On closer inspection, I noticed they were changing colour and developing patterns. Straight away I thought it would be a great subject for macrophotography, so I forgot about the dishes and got out the camera!

Do you add colours to this bubble mixture?

No, I just use washing-up liquid or shampoo — the thicker and less diluted, the better, so that patterns move slower and

last longer. Like fingerprints, no two patterns are ever the same — only more colourful. The colours are natural and anyone can see them with the naked eye if they hold a flat film of soap in a ring and hold it up to the light. What inspired you to take such colourful photographs? My husband Geoffrey. Although he is totally blind, years of describing things to him has made me more observant. I notice things in more detail these days.

● ANTHONY JOHNSTON

2 scene

Queen concert



Former American Idol singer Adam Lambert is joining landmark rock band Queen for one concert this summer, at Sonisphere 2012.

Queen's Brian May and Roger Taylor confirmed Tuesday that the American singer-songwriter will perform vocals for the band's headline set on the second day of the Sonisphere 2012 rock festival. The concert takes place July 7 at Knebworth Park, north of London.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Canuck sound editor David Giammarco goes from the factory to Oscar red carpet.

Rihanna, Brown reunite

► On Monday, they both put out tracks featuring each other ► We all remember what happened three years ago ► Should we applaud their collaboration, or be appalled?

ROMINA MCGUINNESS
SCENE@METRONews.ca
METRO WORLD NEWS

You'll never forget that image of Rihanna from 2009, after she was beaten by her then-boyfriend, R&B singer Chris Brown. But can you forgive? Apparently, Rihanna can: On Monday, she released a remix of her hit song Birthday Cake featuring an appearance by Brown.

"I've been missing your body," he raps, while she adds: "I know you wanna bite this, it's so enticing." (The YouTube video she posted has no images, just text that says: "Yikes.")

Meanwhile, Brown released a track called Turn Up the Music with vocals by Rihanna.

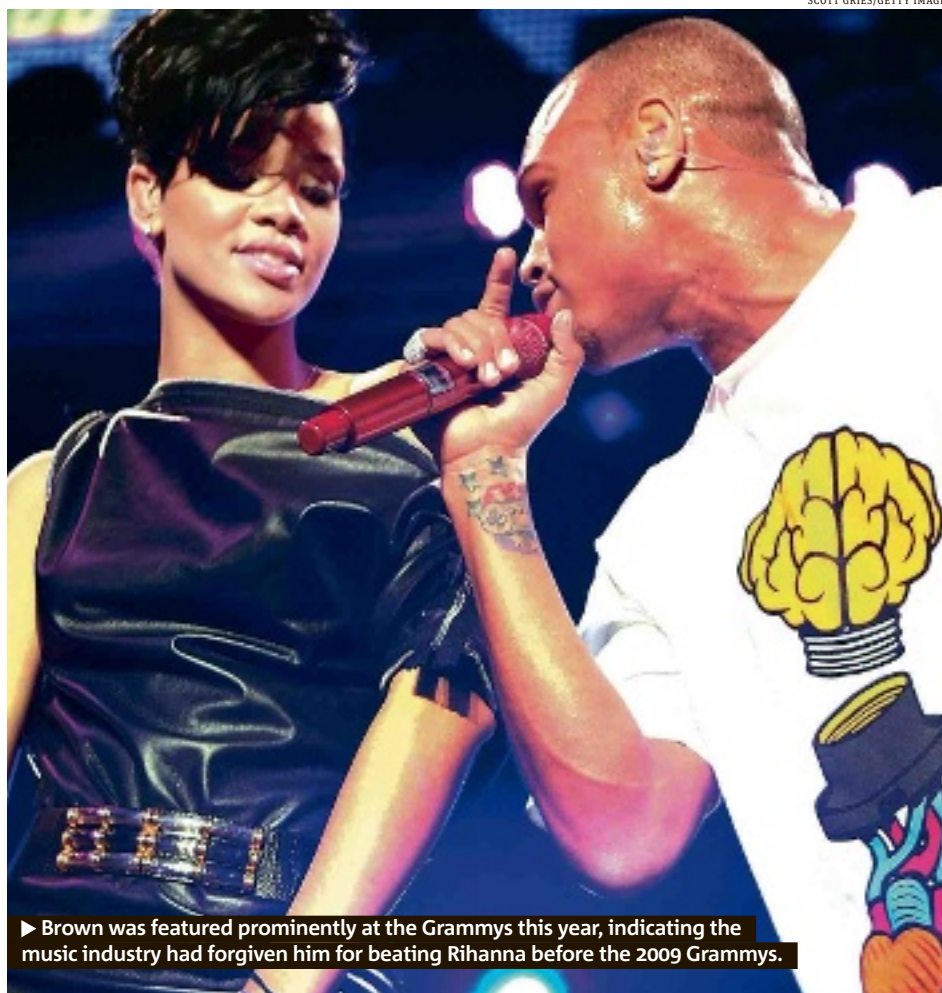
Earlier that day — Rihanna's 24th birthday — the duo also tweeted one another sweet messages.

"HAPPY BIRTHDAY ROBYN," wrote Brown, using her birth name. Rihanna thanked him via retweet, just minutes later.

Their apparent reconciliation comes after controversy last week, when Brown was featured prominently at the Grammys, indicating the music industry has also forgiven him.

Tweeting after the show last week, musician Miranda Lambert wrote: "Where I come from, beating up on a women is never OK."

The whole drama leaves



► Brown was featured prominently at the Grammys this year, indicating the music industry had forgiven him for beating Rihanna before the 2009 Grammys.

us wondering what this says to women who have been victims of assault within a romantic relationship.

Dr. Sheri Jacobson, clinical director of Harley Therapy, a psychotherapy centre, believes it could send a disturbing message about how maltreatment can be over-

looked, or even accepted: "In a romantic sense, it has the danger of a creating a false reality as not everyone has the mental or emotional capacity for change," she tells Metro.

"Hopefully it won't encourage people to look up to Rihanna and Brown as a new ideal, and make them

think it's OK to go back to a violent partner."

On the other hand, Brown seems to have learned from his mistakes. He has apologized on television for the 2009 incident.

"I'd like to think that we can believe in people to repair, heal and develop," says Jacobson. "Brown ap-

Fans react

After the birthday tweets between Brown and Rihanna, followers responded with a flurry of mixed reactions.



► **Optimism:** "C'mon guys -_- I love ya together!!!! Get back together! If ya really love each other! Efff these haterZ! <3 muahzz!", one fan tweeted.

► **Concern:** Another follower was less enthusiastic, tweeting to Rihanna, "Remember bobby brown and Whitney Houston and what happen to her thanks to him. I love ur singing and don't want anything to happen to you <3."

pears to have learned his lesson and has certainly paid heavily for his behaviour toward Rihanna. In that light, it would be distressing if they were to be frowned upon — one strike and he's out.

"If you really care for someone," she continues, "as seems to be the case here, you tend to overlook and tolerate their behaviour. You can't carry it through without some kind of human emotion, romantic or not.

And whatever happens between them, people will always be watching."

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Will Good Deeds go unnoticed?

- Tyler Perry's movies get an average rating of around 50 per cent on Rotten Tomatoes
- But Forbes pegs him as the highest-paid man in entertainment
- His latest film, Good Deeds, hits theatres this weekend

IN FOCUS

RICHARD CROUSE
SCENE@METRONews.CA



Most "name" directors have a trademark that makes their movies instantly recognizable.

Is there a long tracking shot? Must be Scorsese. How about a blue sun flare? That's Spielberg. A car trunk shot? Thanks Tarantino. A man in drag as a pistol-packing grandmother? Well that would be Tyler Perry. His trademark isn't as auspicious as, say, John Woo's slow motion doves, but what Tyler's movies lack stylistically they gener-

ally make up in box office success.

This weekend's Good Deeds isn't likely to make Tyler's name synonymous with auteur, but when Forbes calls you the highest paid man in entertainment — he took home \$130 million between May 2010 and 2011 — no other title really matters.

But what if you've never seen a Tyler Perry movie? For the uninitiated, here's a checklist of how to spot a Perry film.

1. Is there a character named Mabel (Madea) Simmons? She is the cornerstone on which Perry built his empire. Perry has played the argumentative character in dozens of productions on stage, TV and

in movies like Madea Goes to Jail. Entertainment Weekly put the character on its end-of-the-decade "best-of" list saying, "Tyler Perry's Madea is the profane, gun-toting granny you never had but (maybe) wish you did." Weird accent — she says things like, "Hal-leluyer! Praise da lort!" — and bad behaviour aside, Madea is usually used to teach a lesson.

2. Is the story melodramatic, up-lifting and/or redemptive? While none of those traits are exclusive to Perry's films, he manages to highlight the melodramatic aspects of his stories in ways not usually seen outside of The Young and the Restless. As for uplift and redemption, Perry's deeply

held religious beliefs bleed into his films and plots, which frequently reference Christian values. "I don't want to do movies just to do movies," he says. "I want to do movies that inspire, motivate and change lives."

3. Do the critics hate it? If so, it might be a Perry film. His average Rotten Tomatoes rating clocks in around 50 per cent, and The Times suggests that his movies have "a little something for everyone, as long as you're not expecting too much." Does Perry care? Not so much. "The highbrow. They don't get it," he says.

4. Lastly, and this is the dead give-away, most of his films have his name in the title.



► Tyler Perry

GETTY IMAGES

"I don't want to do movies just to do movies. I want to do movies that inspire, motivate and change lives."

TYLER PERRY

DVD review

Buy it 🌐🌐🌐🌐 | Rent it 🌐🌐🌐 | Borrow it 🌐🌐 | Yawn 🌐🌐 | Don't bother 🌐

Tower Heist

Genre: Action/Comedy

Director: Brett Ratner

Stars: Eddie Murphy, Ben Stiller, Casey Affleck
🌐🌐½

The disjointed and dopey Tower Heist plays like an Ocean's 11 for idiots, but retains our goodwill by giving us a revitalized Eddie Murphy for our amusement.

Director Brett Ratner's film begins as mostly serious fiction that draws from recent Ponzi scheme

headlines in the Bernie Madoff affair.

Scammer Arthur Shaw is played by Alan Alda, totally believable as a smug bajillionaire investor living in the penthouse luxury of the Tower (in reality the Trump Tower). Shaw's every want and whim is serviced by the Tower's building manager Josh (Ben Stiller) and the colourful characters who assist him.

Everything is fine until Shaw's illegal money

pyramid collapses, taking down the trusting Tower employees' pension plan with it.

How to get the employees' dough back? A heist is in order.

And the person to engineer it is Murphy, in one of his funniest live-action roles since his 1980s heyday. Ratner breaks all the rules of the universe, including gravity. But if you're willing to suspend your disbelief, he'll leave you smiling. ● PETER HOWELL



The Currency Museum is inviting you to help us kick off Winterlude with Fur Trade Days—featuring fun workshops and hands-on family activities.

SATURDAY, 11 FEBRUARY

English
14:00

French
15:00

Millinery presentation by Ruth Miller—see how to shape felt hats and learn why beaver pelts were so prized in the hat-making industry of centuries past.

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www.currencymuseum.ca

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15:00

Felt making workshop—visitors will be making small felt squares using roving wool.

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Aniston denies being latest home wrecker

► Former Friends' star also squashes rumours she is pregnant with triplets

Since Justin Theroux broke up with his girlfriend of 14 years shortly before getting together with Jennifer Aniston, the former Friends star has been dodging claims that she's a home wrecker. But Aniston insists she and Theroux — who met while filming Wanderlust — didn't get together until later.

"Nothing happened on that movie," she tells GQ magazine. "It's a rumour — it's the easy rumour, but nothing happened. We were just friends."

Speaking of rumours, Aniston continues to use her current press tour to clear up a few stories floating around about her.

"I'm not having triplets. Not having twins. Nor am I having one baby. I did not elope," she tells the magazine. "The one time I do say, 'Yes! I'm pregnant!' they'll be like, 'Pfft. Right.'" **METRO**

"It's a rumour — it's the easy rumour, but nothing happened."

JENNIFER ANISTON



ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

► Jennifer Aniston is putting rumours to bed once again.

Talking points

Sheen offers an apology to Kutcher

BUT NO APOLOGY FOR THE SHOW. Charlie Sheen clearly had second thoughts about his recent harsh words about Ashton Kutcher and the new season of Two and a Half Men, as he's issued an apology to his sitcom replacement — via TMZ, of course.

"Dear Ashton. My bad. I was disrespectful to a man doing his best," Sheen writes. "I got excited and threw you into the crossfire, but the rest of my statement I stand behind. You however, deserve better. Safety in your travels sir."

The part of his previous tirade that he's not apologizing for?

"I'm tired of pretending the show doesn't suck," he said, adding that Kutcher is "saddled with bad writing."

● METRO

Katy Perry is not Tebowing

HYPE FOR HYPE'S SAKE Tim Tebow insists that he and Katy Perry are not dating — much to the dismay of Perry's mother.

"No, there's not" any truth to the hookup rumours, Tebow tells Hollyscoop. "I'm just having fun and enjoying my life, trying to enjoy every moment and not get too caught up in any of the hype."

● METRO

Beckham hits back at critics

FIRST WORLD PROBLEMS Victoria Beckham is striking back at critics who have said she's been looking miserable lately.

"Look, if people want

Celebrity tweets



"I'm feeling so good this morning that I set my doomsday watch back by a whole minute."



@AlbertBrooks



@lindsaylohan

"iTunes is DRIVING ME INSANE..."

why does it do this? It literally, is LYING to me and saying that my security code is NOT correct & IT IS!"

@CeeLoGreen

"2012 is mine"



@Joan_Rivers

"Just found out I will not be a presenter at next week's Oscars. I did, however, get a callback for the 'death reel.'"

to say I'm miserable then so be it," Beckham tells the Sunday Mirror, explaining that she's just exhausted from the combination of having new baby girl Harper to care for and a fashion line to oversee.

"And then people want to say I look crap. Well, I'm a working mom, so give me a break. I'd like there to be a break but I very much doubt it's going to happen any time soon."

When Harper sleeps that will be my break."

● METRO



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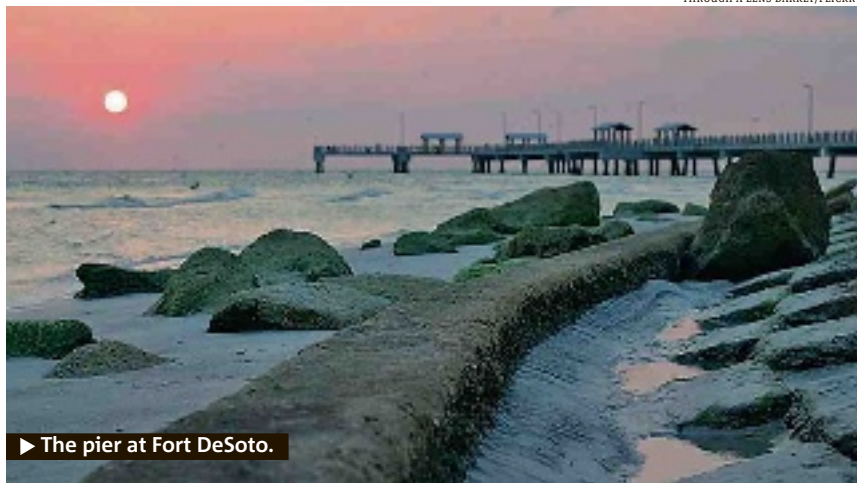
A new side of Florida

► From Dali to animatronic dolphins, here's a side of Florida you never knew existed
► David Downing, of the St. Pete and Clearwater visitor bureau, shares what's hot this winter

DOROTHY ROBINSON
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA

Great for families

"Parents magazine just rated our Fort DeSoto Park the No. 1 Family Beach in the USA," Downing says. He attributes this ranking to the fact the shallow beach is "almost like a swimming pool." The picnic areas, campgrounds and bike rentals all add to the family-friendly destination.



► The pier at Fort DeSoto.

THROUGH A LENS DARKLY/Flickr

Pack your shades

Leave the umbrella at home. "We hold the world record for the most consecutive days of sunshine," boasts Downing. "We had 762 days of sunshine — in a row."

Live the movies

You can meet Winter, the world's most famous animatronic dolphin and inspiration for the film *Dolphin Tale*, at the Clearwater Marine Aquarium. The exhibit Winter's Dolphin Tale Adventure showcases Winter as well as sets from the film.

FIFTH WORLD ART/Flickr



► St. Petersburg at night.

Drink up!

Although St. Petersburg might have a reputation as a sleepy beach town, Downing boasts that the nightlife is world-class.

"In a five-block radius, there are 25 bars, restaurants, nightclubs, dancing, live music — and most stay open until 3 a.m."

He tells us one of the best things about St. Petersburg is the convenient fact that you don't need a car.

"If you stay in our downtown, you can just walk around or rent a golf car for a couple of bucks to hit all of the sites," he says.

Meet Florida's cultural side

The Dali Museum just celebrated their first anniversary of a new facility, according to Downing. "It's the most comprehensive collection of Dali's work in the world," he says.

October will mark the first major visiting exhibition by Jeff Koons.

Also a must-see? The Museum of Fine Arts in St. Petersburg — the new director led the education department at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York for 18 years.



► Clearwater isn't all beaches.

SUPERWEBDEVELOPER/Flickr

3

life

Travel in brief



Florida's tourism agency says a record 85.9 million people visited the state last year. Visit Florida said that the estimated total was a 4.4 per cent increase over 2010 and the highest number since 2007. The number shows Florida tourism — the state's leading industry — has rebounded from a crippling recession and 2010 oil spill that kept visitors away from its beaches and attractions.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Just in time for Carnival: A beginner's guide to Brazil's city of contrasts

Washington ate here

► New exhibit at George Washington's Mount Vernon estate showcases George Washington's cookware

JACQUELYN MARTIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



► Chef Walter Staib of the PBS show A Taste of History

A heart-shaped waffle iron? It sounds like the kind of last-minute gift a husband buys for his wife at if he forgot flowers on Valentine's Day.

But this particular heart-shaped waffle iron belonged to none other than the father of the United States, George Washington.

The waffle iron and dozens of other food-related items are going on display

at Washington's Mount Vernon, Va., estate for a new exhibition, Hoe-cakes & Hospitality: Cooking with Martha Washington.

The exhibition, which opens Saturday in the museum on the estate's grounds, features a number of unusual kitchen items that belonged to the Washingtons.

The exhibits provide some insights into Washington's preferred eating habits. Numerous written accounts document Washington's appreciation for hoe-cakes, a pancake made of cornmeal that could be cooked, if need be, out in the field over open coals on the surface of a garden hoe. Washington was said to prefer his swimming in butter and honey.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

My favourite spot in Canada

ERIC PETERSON: QU'APPELLE VALLEY, SASK.

My favourite place in Canada would be the Qu'Appelle Valley in Saskatchewan, specifically Lake Katepwa.

I grew up in Saskatchewan and we had a cottage there. It's a very beautiful valley and kind of unexpected (in this area). I think that is one of the wonders of it.

It runs north and to the east of Regina. The name Qu'Appelle is from a Cree legend. Evidently an Aboriginal person — a young brave — was returning by canoe up the lakes and he hears his name called as his wife is dying and he says "Qu'Appelle" ("Who is calling?" or "Qui appelle?" in French). His name is the last word she says and by the time he gets there she has died. But he heard her call.

The real surprise is it's in the prairie part of the province — three-quarters of Saskatchewan is like On-



DLITZ/FICKR

tario — but in the prairie part from Prince Albert down it's the Prairies.

Driving along Highway 56 you have no indication that there is anything but prairies and then suddenly you come over this hill and it's quite breathtaking.

Of course I'm very biased to it because I spent all my summers there as a kid.

ERIC PETERSON IS CURRENTLY STARRING IN THE CROW'S THEATRE PRODUCTION OF SEEDS AT THE YOUNG CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS IN TORONTO. CROWSTHEATRE.COM



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The deep secrets of Lake Tahoe

► Delve into some of the glamorous history in Lake Tahoe ► It's the perfect place for history buffs and hikers

THE TRAVELLIN' CANADIAN



DARREN PARKMAN
TRAVEL@METRONews.ca

When all the glam and glare of the Vegas lights get a bit too bright, not far away lies a little haven of casino history, set against one of the most stunning and scenic backdrops in Nevada.

Back in the day, Lake Tahoe was 'the' place where stars, dignitaries, and even the notorious Rat Pack came to stay and play while recharging their famous batteries.



► Lake Tahoe offers a respite from the lights of Las Vegas.

Now, being a major Sinatra fan, it was a particular thrill to pull up to the front entrance of the very retro, very cool, very old school Cal Neva Lodge, especially since it almost seemed as though Frank, Dean and Sammy might still be crooning a tune inside the Frank Sinatra showroom.

In fact Frank owned the resort for a few years back

in the '60s. Even the big neon sign out front hasn't changed much since the Rat Pack hung out here.

Once inside it was like walking back in time. Some slots still actually worked with real coins instead of high-tech player cards.

One of the main draw cards for me, despite my claustrophobia, was the little-known secret underground tunnel tour.



► The Rat Pack

Four days a week, Neva offers visitors a chance to go deep underground, to experience a little known piece of celebrity history. I felt like I was entering an ancient brick dungeon, as our guide explained this cramped tunnel was built so Sinatra could hide from the throngs during his daily

Other cool things to do in Lake Tahoe




- **Take a self-guided snowmobile tour:** Roar through the Sierras in style with your own personal machine.
- **Whitewater rafting:** Take a wild and wet ride on the Truckee river. Brave the class three rapids through the high Sierra desert on an 11-kilometre guided adventure courtesy of Tributary White Water tours.

trip from his luxury cabin out back, to the casino showroom. Deep in the bowels of this dark and spooky passageway, I noticed a small X marked on

the wall, which, it turns out, marks a very notorious spot. This is supposedly the exact place where then-president John F. Kennedy and Marilyn Monroe consummated their clandestine relationship, while unsuspecting gamblers spent their money on the casino floor directly above.

"Ring a ding ding!" as Frank would say. That's some entertaining folklore for the \$10 tour price. The Cal Neva and other Tahoe casinos still have that intimate small-town feel. Despite the fact Tahoe has obviously expanded over the years, it has managed to retain its natural beauty. Where else can you ski and hike amid stunning scenery all morning, and still get back to the casino in time to lose the kids college money by nightfall?

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Classic flavours for timeless flicks

► This Sunday, the stars will gather in Hollywood for the Academy Awards ► Here, we take a look back at two early classics that won best picture — complete with themed snacks to serve at your Oscar party

Casablanca



► This recipe makes 30 cookies.

MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In The Chips: Casablanca

Everybody comes to Rick's Café Américain in

the movie Casablanca, whether it's for cocktails, food, forged letters of transit or hopes of winning big at roulette.

Though you'll likely want to stick to the first two.

If you're looking to

gamble on something new, why not try some potato chip cookies, a twist on the traditional snack.

We can't guarantee your friends will be shocked — shocked! — but they may be mildly surprised.

Potato Chip Cookies Preparation:

- 1 In the bowl of an electric mixer, beat together the unsalted butter, with brown sugar.
- 2 Add the egg and beat again. Add the flour, baking powder, finely

crushed potato chips and sliced almonds. Mix just until combined.

- 3 Scoop by teaspoonful onto parchment-lined baking sheets and bake for 10 to 12 minutes in a 180 C (350 F) oven.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ingredients:

- 125 ml (1/2 cup) unsalted butter
- 250 ml (1 packed cup) of brown sugar
- 1 egg

- 500 ml (2 cups) all-purpose flour
- 5 ml (1 tsp) baking powder
- 250 ml (1 cup) finely crushed potato chips
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) sliced almonds

Moroccan Sour Cocktail

Here's a recipe for a spicy whiskey sour that would be right at home in the '40s nightclub scene that serves as the background for Casablanca's story of love and war.

Preparation:

- 1 In double old-fashioned glass, stir together whiskey, lemon juice, sugar, ginger, turmeric and cinnamon until sugar is completely dissolved. Add 1 ice cube and top with a splash of seltzer water. Garnish with a lemon twist.

Ingredients:

- 60 ml (2 oz) whiskey
- Juice of half a lemon
- 5 ml (1 tsp) sugar
- Pinch dry ground ginger
- Pinch of turmeric
- Pinch of cinnamon
- Seltzer water or club soda
- Lemon twist, for garnish

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The Scarlett Cocktail

A starving Scarlett O'Hara resorts to grubbing up radishes in the famous "I'll never be hungry again" scene that ends the first half of the classic *Gone With the Wind*.

Luckily, you can try something much tastier with this crimson cocktail featuring cranberry and cherry juice.

Preparation:

- 1 In a cocktail shaker filled with ice, combine cranberry

juice, cherry juice, vodka and lime juice. Shake and pour into a martini glass. Garnish with fresh cherries.

Ingredients:

- 60 ml (2 oz) cranberry juice
- 60 ml (2 oz) cherry juice
- 60 ml (2 oz) citrus vodka
- 30 ml (1 oz) lime juice
- Fresh cherries, for garnish

Scarlett Fever: Gone with the Wind

Serve some Manchego cheese toasts on the side for an elegant nibble.

This appetizer uses banana bread, a food that came into vogue in the 1930s as baking powder and baking soda became staples of the American kitchen.

It's not likely you'll have leftovers, but if you do, fiddle-dee-dee! Tomorrow is another day.

Manchego Banana Bites Preparation:

- 1 Slice banana bread thinly and cut into 5-cm (2-inch) rounds with a small cookie cutter.
- 2 In a skillet, melt butter over medium-high.
- 3 Toast banana bread rounds in buttered skillet.
- 4 Serve topped with slices of Manchego cheese and toasted pecans.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ingredients:

- 1 banana bread
- butter for frying
- 24 Manchego cheese slices
- 24 toasted pecans

Gone With the Wind



► This recipe makes 24 rounds.

MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Don't let rejection stand in your way

► It's easy to get discouraged during a job hunt ► But even a 'no' means you can focus on other opportunities



LAUREN STEIN
TALENTEGG.CA

It's a rush getting that email or phone call — when those hours of rewriting, reformatting and self-branding have inspired someone to ask whether the flesh-and-blood You might be available to meet.

I was bursting with anticipation when I recently discovered, thanks to some LinkedIn sleuthing, an opening for a social media/communications position at a company that just happened to employ an old acquaintance of mine.

I sent my contact a message immediately, pouncing on the opportunity.

As a recent graduate of the Concordia University creative writing program, let me tell you, the worst part isn't getting that re-

jection letter — it's waiting for it to arrive.

The best part of working your network is that waiting is almost non-existent. I heard back from my contact the same day, not only with a request for my paper-self, but an inquiry about my availabilities so that an interview could be scheduled.

Within hours I had an interview set and some pep in my step.

Things got a little murky when, the following day, my contact had to swap our interview to another time, and I proactively suggested a place and time. I never received a confirmation.

Fast-forward to the scheduled time and place: I decided to assume that no response leaned toward the affirmative. I was prepared, dressed appropri-



► Lauren Stein

Key take-aways

- Use your network — it's not a sure thing, but it will get you talking to the right people
- Don't get discouraged by rejection
- Find an activity or hobby unrelated to job hunting that you enjoy

ately, arrived early. And I waited. I waited for a half hour before I sent my contact a message to ask if we were still meeting. I waited another 15 minutes to see if maybe he got lost/stuck in traffic/couldn't find parking/slept in.

I eventually did get a response from my contact, stating that the position had already been filled.


Like most things that involve putting yourself out there (job hunting, writing,

dating, Canadian Idol auditions), the easiest thing to do is get discouraged. If you've just graduated, whether you're working part-time or volunteering alongside your job search process, don't wallow if things aren't working out.

Where I am now


I'm still on the prowl for career-launching employment, but am currently part-timing at a coffee house and I've applied to the creative book publishing post-grad certificate program at Humber College. I'm also writing and submitting my work to various literary magazines, for which, even after 100 days of waiting, I always get some kind of response.



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THEORY AND PRACTICE ... A REALITY CHECK

► There's often a big difference between what the law says and what people can actually get away with



► You're not allowed to fire someone for being pregnant. But a legal loophole means it happens all the time.

WORKPLACE LAW

DANIEL LUBLIN
DAN@TORONTO-EMPLOYMENTLAWYER.COM
TWITTER: @DANLUBLIN



Workplace law never ceases to amaze me — whether employer or employee, one side is always trying to take advantage of the other.

Here are just a few of the questions I was asked this week:

Can I fire an employee on maternity leave?

The answer should be no, as reinstatement is required at the end of the leave.

However, due to a loophole in the legislation permitting termination only in circumstances unrelated to the leave, it happens all the time.

All an employer must do is claim there is some form of restructuring, even if it is not true, and the legislation can be circumvented.

Can I fire an employee on disability leave?

Similar to a parental leave, the answer is technically no, but practically yes.

Employees cannot be fired because they are on leave, but employers do so anyway.

They just call it something else and they often get away with it.

Can I look for another job

while still employed?

Looking for other work while employed is not illegal. The problem is when it is done using company resources, such as computers and the Internet.

Even sending an application from your personal email account, but through your workplace computer, could be cause for dismissal.

I work through lunch and my breaks all the time. Can I leave work early?

This seems logical but the law does not permit it.

Employment standards legislation requires a certain amount of break time each day, but it does not permit employees to "trade" their breaks for an early departure.

My employee claims she

worked during her vacation. Must I provide her with extra time off?

If an employee was asked to perform any work, technically she should be paid or provided with a substitute day off.

Unfortunately, this rarely occurs.

If an employee works late because she is slow at her work, must I pay for that time?

If overtime is worked, even without authorization, it must be paid.

The problem is that few employers and employees are aware of the actual overtime rules, and therefore, seldom are they followed.

DANIEL LUBLIN IS AN EMPLOYMENT LAWYER WITH WHITTEN & LUBLIN.

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Calligraphy in a digital world

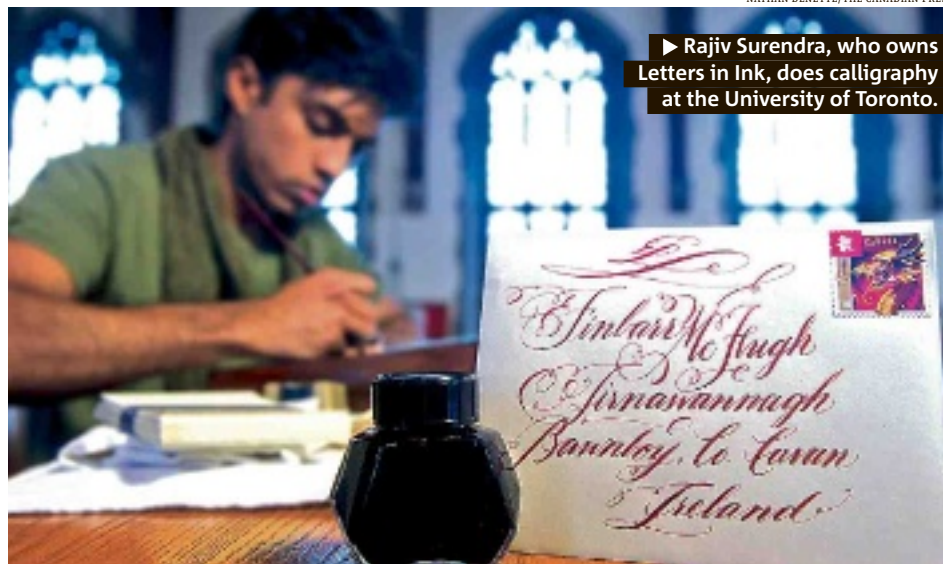
► Art of handwriting still inks unique place in technology-driven society

When Rajiv Surendra meets new people in his travels who want to stay in touch, he has a key stipulation when it comes to exchanging messages: put them in the post.

"I have a pile of letters at the end of the year, and sometimes, I flip through and open (them) up again. And it feels like that person is right there with me because their hand is on the paper," he said.

Surendra's affinity for the art of handwriting was cultivated during childhood when he discovered letters from the mid-1800s and was struck by the beauty of the penmanship.

Surendra started to replicate the elaborate script with pencil and pen before discovering the historical tools that helped further propel his delicate penstrokes and fanciful flourishes into an art form.



► Rajiv Surendra, who owns Letters in Ink, does calligraphy at the University of Toronto.

The self-taught calligrapher now has his own business, Letters In Ink, with the bulk of his work dedicated to addressing envelopes for wedding invitations. He also designs monograms for use in

everything from embossing stationary to embroidering on pillowcases.

But not all of his work is permanently preserved, such as writing chalkboard menus in restaurants.

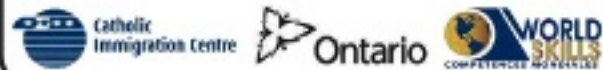
With few opportunities

for people to put pen to paper beyond signing cheques and receipts, Surendra believes the increasing rarity of handwriting is a prime reason why there's still a place for calligraphy. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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Senators preview

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The Senators (31-22-8) look to win their fourth straight hosting Washington (29-25-5), which lost 5-0 to Carolina on Monday. The Capitals have won three of their last 10 games. Alexander Ovechkin, who leads Washington with 24 goals, hasn't scored in the last five games. Alexander Semin has nine points in 10 games this month. Mike Green has yet to record a point in two games since returning from a groin injury. Nicklas Backstrom (concussion symptoms) remains out indefinitely.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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► Blue Jackets captain Rick Nash might be on the move after another disappointing campaign in Columbus.

On edge in Columbus

► 'It's the most uncertainty I've ever seen,' says Blue Jackets' Umberger

On the surface, it's like any other pre-game skate for Rick Nash and the Columbus Blue Jackets.

When Nash barrels in on the net and scores during a drill, his teammates give him a cheer. The mood appears upbeat.

But as the NHL trade deadline approaches, rumours that Nash could be skating with a new team continue to swirl.

The Blue Jackets captain has been the face of the franchise for nearly a decade and he's made an impression on Ohio's capital city. The thought of him leaving before Monday's deadline is unsettling to everyone involved.

"You try to be professional and handle it the best you can, but we're also human," centre Derek MacKenzie said Tuesday ahead of a game against San Jose. "You play with these guys for months, sometimes years at a time. It's really scary, especially when you start hearing names like Rick Nash. To possibly lose a guy like him, I think it weighs on us."

Wild cards



James van Riemsdyk, Philadelphia
The big forward has a lot of suitors and should net a decent return if GM Paul Holmgren elects to make a move.



Cory Schneider, Vancouver
It's hard to imagine the Canucks parting with an excellent insurance policy in goal, but it remains an outside possibility with GMs talking trade.



Zach Parise, New Jersey
The Devils risk losing their captain for nothing, but with the team climbing the standings, it's extremely unlikely he'll be moved.



Jack Johnson, Los Angeles
With the Kings looking to make deals, Johnson's name has emerged as a potential trade piece.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

These four players aren't that likely to be traded, but if they do move, it could shake up the market.

dia Tuesday.

"I'm not going to lie, it's tough hearing these rumours," said left-winger R.J. Umberger. "Obviously, we're not in the spot we want to be, for another year. We're all upset about it here and we know a lot of changes are going to happen."

The waiting is the hardest part, says Brassard.

"Guys wish it was Monday (deadline day) tomorrow," he said.

Uncertainty has been commonplace throughout the Blue Jackets' history and the frustration has become evident in the stands at Nationwide Arena, down to the Columbus front office and inside the dressing room.

"You look at the guys next to you and you wonder if in a few days from now, you're going to be playing against him," said MacKenzie.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sens GM 'cautious' ahead of deadline

If the Ottawa Senators are going to make a push for the post-season, it's more than likely going to be with their current cast of players.

General manager Bryan Murray says he has been working the phones with the trade deadline looming on Monday, but adds there isn't a sense of urgency to make a deal.

"I expect to talk to teams, which I've been doing a fair amount," Murray said Tuesday. "I don't know that we're doing anything, but a lot of managers seem to be like me in that they're not sure what they want to do. They are in the (playoff) race, but they aren't convinced whether they are going to be in or out."

"We are all trying to be somewhat cautious."

Murray has pulled the trigger on just five deals in four deadline days as GM with Ottawa.

And he says he already made his big move in acquiring Kyle Turris from the Phoenix Coyotes in December for David Rundblad and a 2012 second-rounder.

The 22-year-old centre has five goals and 10 assists in 34 games with Ottawa and has provided stability to the team's second line.

"That's the kind of trade I'd like to make," Murray said. "If we could get a younger player coming in that has a good future that can help us now, that's the kind of thing I much prefer to do over trading away a young player for a veteran guy that is unrestricted."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



"If there's no movement around our team, we'll be satisfied with it, and we feel with this team going forward, we can continue to win hockey games."

SENATORS CENTRE JASON SPEZZA

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-NY Rangers	57	38	14	1	4	161	116	81	19-7-0-2	19-7-1-2	7-2-0-1	W1
d-Boston	57	35	20	1	1	190	132	72	18-10-1-1	17-10-0-0	4-6-0-0	L2
d-Florida	58	27	20	5	6	144	162	65	14-8-1-6	13-12-4-0	5-5-0-0	L3
New Jersey	58	34	20	1	3	164	159	72	16-10-0-3	18-10-1-0	8-1-0-1	W3
Philadelphia	58	32	19	2	5	193	177	71	14-10-1-4	18-9-1-1	3-5-0-2	L1
Pittsburgh	59	33	21	2	3	184	160	71	17-8-2-0	16-13-0-3	5-4-0-1	L1
Ottawa	61	31	22	6	2	185	183	70	15-11-2-1	16-11-4-1	4-4-2-0	W3
Toronto	59	29	24	3	3	178	180	64	16-9-2-2	13-15-1-1	4-5-0-1	L1
Winnipeg	61	29	26	3	3	153	170	64	18-9-0-2	11-17-3-1	6-4-0-0	W3
Washington	59	29	25	2	3	159	168	63	19-8-0-2	10-17-2-1	3-6-0-1	L2
Tampa Bay	58	26	26	3	3	163	195	58	17-9-1-1	9-17-2-2	5-3-2-0	W2
NY Islanders	59	25	26	5	3	138	169	58	13-14-5-0	12-12-1-2	5-4-0-1	L1
Montreal	60	24	26	2	8	160	164	58	11-13-2-6	13-13-0-2	5-4-0-1	L1
Buffalo	59	25	27	3	4	148	175	57	14-11-3-4	11-16-0-0	5-3-0-2	W1
Carolina	60	23	26	7	4	158	181	57	16-12-0-3	7-14-7-1	6-2-2-0	W1

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Detroit	60	41	17	1	1	190	139	84	26-2-1-0	15-15-0-1	8-1-0-1	W6
d-Vancouver	59	38	15	0	6	194	144	82	18-6-0-4	20-9-0-2	8-0-0-2	W4
d-San Jose	57	31	19	4	3	167	142	69	18-9-2-0	13-10-2-3	4-5-1-0	L3
St. Louis	59	36	16	1	6	150	117	79	26-3-1-3	10-13-0-3	7-3-0-0	L1
Nashville	59	34	19	3	3	165	154	74	18-7-2-2	16-12-1-1	5-3-0-2	W1
Chicago	60	32	21	4	3	189	178	71	20-6-1-3	12-15-3-0	3-6-1-0	W3
Phoenix	59	29	21	3	6	152	147	67	15-10-2-2	14-11-1-4	8-1-0-1	W2
Calgary	59	28	22	5	4	142	155	65	16-8-1-1	12-14-4-3	5-2-2-1	W1
Los Angeles	59	27	21	5	6	124	126	65	15-13-0-4	12-8-5-2	4-5-1-0	L2
Dallas	59	29	26	1	3	152	167	62	16-12-0-2	13-14-1-1	3-5-1-1	L2
Colorado	60	29	27	3	1	151	168	62	16-13-0-1	13-14-3-0	3-5-1-1	L1
Minnesota	59	26	24	2	7	131	154	61	14-10-1-3	12-14-1-4	2-6-0-2	W1
Anaheim	59	25	24	4	6	152	168	60	15-13-2-0	10-11-2-6	6-1-1-2	W1
Edmonton	58	22	30	2	4	153	177	50	15-10-2-2	7-20-0-2	4-4-1-1	L3
Columbus	59	17	35	2	5	136	195	41	10-16-1-2	7-19-1-3	4-5-1-0	L2

d — division leaders ranked 1-2-3 regardless of points; a team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OTL (overtime loss) or SL (shootout loss) column.

Last night's results

N.Y. Islanders at Buffalo
New Jersey at Toronto
N.Y. Rangers at Pittsburgh
San Jose at Columbus
Dallas at Montreal
Anaheim at Tampa Bay
Vancouver at Nashville
Philadelphia at Winnipeg
Detroit at Chicago
Edmonton at Calgary
Los Angeles at Phoenix

Monday's results

Ottawa 6 N.Y. Islanders 0
Carolina 5 Washington 0
Tonight's games
All times Eastern
Washington at Ottawa, 7 p.m.
Boston at St. Louis, 8 p.m.
Los Angeles at Colorado, 9 p.m.

Tomorrow's games

San Jose at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Anaheim at Carolina, 7 p.m.
Minnesota at Florida, 7:30 p.m.
Vancouver at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
St. Louis at Nashville, 8 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Winnipeg, 8:30 p.m.
Dallas at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Phoenix at Calgary, 9 p.m.
Philadelphia at Edmonton, 9:30 p.m.
Friday's games
Vancouver at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at N.Y. Islanders, 7 p.m.
Montreal at Washington, 7 p.m.
Colorado at Columbus, 7 p.m.
Boston at Buffalo, 7:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.

SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	PT
Malkin, Pgh	32	39	71
Giroux, Pha	22	46	68
Stamkos, TB	40	27	67
Spezza, Ott	27	38	65
H.Sedin, Vcr	13	51	64
Kessel, Tor	30	33	63
D.Sedin, Vcr	26	35	61
Lupul, Tor	23	38	61
Datsyuk, Det	16	43	59
Kovalchuk, NJ	25	33	58
Tavares, NYI	24	34	58
Hossa, Chi	23	35	58
Neal, Pgh	30	27	57
Toews, Chi	29	28	57
Pominville, Buf	23	34	57
Karlsson, Ott	12	45	57
Eberle, Edm	25	30	55
Elias, NJ	19	36	55
Hartnell, Pha	27	27	54
Selanne, Ana	20	33	53
Ra.Whitney, Phx	16	37	53
Parenteau, NYI	12	41	53
St. Louis, TB	18	34	52
Thornton, SJ	12	40	52
Sharp, Chi	24	27	51
Parise, NJ	22	29	51
Gabarik, NYR	27	23	50
Moulson, NYI	25	25	50
Eriksson, Dal	18	32	50
Kopitar, LA	17	33	50
Vrbata, Phx	28	21	49
Couture, SJ	25	24	49
O.Jokinen, Cal	18	31	49
E.Staal, Car	18	31	49
Benn, Dal	17	32	49
P.Kane, Chi	13	36	49
Perry, Ana	29	19	48
Versteeg, Fla	22	26	48
Bergeron, Bos	17	31	48
Franzen, Det	23	24	47
Iginla, Cal	23	24	47
Pacioretty, Mtl	25	21	46
Marleau, SJ	23	23	46
Lecavalier, TB	21	25	46
Seguin, Bos	20	26	46
Zetterberg, Det	13	33	46
Wheeler, Wpg	11	35	46
Ovechkin, Wash	24	21	45
Pavelski, SJ	22	23	45
Vanek, Buf	21	24	45
Filppula, Det	16	29	45

Last night's games not included

LACROSSE

NLL

EAST DIVISION	GP	W	L	Pct.	GF	GA	GB
Philadelphia	6	4	2	.667	69	77	—
Toronto	6	3	3	.500	69	70	1
Rochester	7	3	4	.429	90	86	1½
Buffalo	6	2	4	.333	70	76	2
WEST DIVISION	GP	W	L	Pct.	GF	GA	GB
Colorado	6	6	0	1.000	83	73	—
Calgary	6	4	2	.667	74	65	2
Minnesota	6	3	3	.500	73	74	3
Edmonton	5	1	4	.200	52	51	4½
Washington	6	1	5	.167	58	76	5
WEEK EIGHT	Friday's games						
	Rochester at Toronto, 7 p.m.						
	Philadelphia at Edmonton, 9 p.m.						
	Calgary at Colorado, 9 p.m.						
	Minnesota at Washington, 11 p.m.						
Saturday's game	At Buffalo, N.Y.						
	NLL All-star game, 7 p.m., EST						

TENNIS

ATP-WTA

RMK CHAMPIONSHIPS & CEL-LULAR SOUTH CUP

At Memphis, Tenn.

Men's Singles — First Round

Sergiy Stakhovsky, Ukraine, def. Robert Kendrick, U.S., 6-3, 7-6 (6).
Ryan Sweeting, U.S., def. James Blake, U.S., 6-0, 6-2.

Sam Querrey, U.S., def. Alejandro Falla, Colombia, 2-6, 6-3, 6-4.

Women's Singles — First Round

Ksenia Pervak (2), Kazakhstan, def. Rebecca Marino, Toronto, 6-2, 6-4.

Pauline Parmentier (5), France, def. Andrea Hlavackova, Czech Republic, 6-4, 4-6, 6-2.
Stephanie Foretz Gacon, France, def. Melanie Oudin, U.S., 6-2, 6-3.

Women's Singles — Second Round

Marina Erakovic (4), New Zealand, def. Evgeniya Rodina, Russia, 6-3, 6-4.
Varvara Lepchenko, U.S., def. Johanna Larsson (7), Sweden, 6-2, 6-4.
Vera Dushevina, Russia, def. Jamie Hampton, U.S., 6-4, 6-3.

ATP

OPEN 13

At Marseille, France

Singles — First Round

Richard Gasquet (5), France, def. Go Soeda, Japan, 6-0, 6-2.
David Goffin, Belgium, def. Adrian Mannarino, France, 6-2, 1-0 (retired).
Albano Olivetti, France, def. Matthias Bachinger, Germany, 6-4, 6-3.

Igor Kunitsyn, Russia, def. Roberto Bautista-Agut, Spain, 6-4, 6-4.
Nicolas Mahut, France, def. Arnaud Clement, France, 6-3, 6-4.

Nikolay Davydenko, Russia, def. Andreas Beck, Germany, 6-1, 7-5.
Karol Beck, Slovakia, def. Paul-Henri Mathieu, France, 7-6 (2), 2-6, 6-3.

Doubles — First Round

Mahesh Bhupathi and Rohan Bopanna (1), India, def. James Cerretani, U.S., and Adil Shamasdin, Pickering, Ont., 6-3, 5-7, 10-3 (tiebreak).

WTA

DUBAI CHAMPIONSHIPS

At Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Singles — First Round

Agnieszka Radwanska (5), Poland, def. Aleksandra Wozniak, Blainville, Que., 6-1, 6-7 (6), 7-5.

Peng Shuai, China, def. Marion Bartoli (6), France, 6-4, 6-3.
Ana Ivanovic, Serbia, def. Francesca Schiavone (7), Italy, 6-1, 7-5.

Iveta Benesova, Czech Republic, def. Dominika Cibulkova, Slovakia, 3-1 (retired).
Lucie Safarova, Czech Republic, def. Petra Martic, Croatia, 6-3, 5-7, 6-3.

Daniela Hantuchova, Slovakia, def. Polona Hercog, Slovenia, 1-6, 7-5, 7-6 (4).
Simona Halep, Romania, def. Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova, Russia, 6-4, 6-2.

CURLING

CANADIAN WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP

SCOTTIES TOURNAMENT OF HEARTS

At Red Deer, Alta.

Province (skip)

	W	L
Canada (Holland)	5	1
Manitoba (J.Jones)	5	2
B.C. (K.Scott)	4	2
Saskatchewan (Englot)	4	3
New Brunswick (Atkinson)	4	3
Alberta (Nedohin)	3	3
Quebec (Larouche)	3	3
N.L. (H.Strong)	2	4
Ontario (Horgan)	2	4
P.E.I. (Dolan)	2	4
NWT/Yukon (Galusha)	2	4
Nova Scotia (Smith-Dacey)	2	5

Yesterday's results

Ninth Draw

Manitoba 8 Nova Scotia 3
Newfoundland & Labrador 8 P.E.I. 4
Quebec 7 Northwest/Yukon Territories 5
Saskatchewan 11 New Brunswick 6

Draw 10

Alberta 7 British Columbia 4
Canada 9 Ontario 4
Manitoba 8 Saskatchewan 7 (extra end)
New Brunswick 8 Nova Scotia 4

Draw 11

Quebec vs. Canada
Northwest/Yukon Territories vs. Ontario
P.E.I. vs. Alberta
British Columbia vs. Newfoundland & Lab.

Monday's results

Sixth Draw

Alberta 8 Ontario 4
British Columbia 7 Canada 5
Seventh Draw
New Brunswick 8 Northwest/Yukon Terr. 6
Nova Scotia 10 Quebec 4
Manitoba 8 Newfoundland & Labrador 5
P.E.I. 8 Saskatchewan 7

Eighth Draw

Canada 7 Manitoba 3
New Brunswick 8 Alberta 5
Nova Scotia 8 British Columbia 7
Saskatchewan 10 Ontario 3

Today's games

All times Eastern
Draw 12, 10:30 a.m.
New Brunswick vs. Ontario; Canada vs. Nova Scotia; Manitoba vs. British Columbia; Saskatchewan vs. Alberta.

Draw 13, 3:30 p.m.
British Columbia vs. Northwest/Yukon Territories; Quebec vs. Alberta; Ontario vs. Newfoundland & Labrador; Canada vs. P.E.I.

Draw 14, 9:30 p.m.
P.E.I. vs. Nova Scotia; Newfoundland & Lab. vs. New Brunswick; Quebec vs. Saskatchewan; Manitoba vs. Northwest/Yukon Territories.

Tomorrow's games
Draw 15, 10:30 a.m.
Alberta vs. Newfoundland & Labrador; British Columbia vs. P.E.I.; Canada vs. Northwest/Yukon Territories; Quebec vs. Ontario.

Draw 16, 3:30 p.m.
Manitoba vs. Quebec; Saskatchewan vs. Northwest/Yukon Terr.; New Brunswick vs. P.E.I.; Newfoundland & Labrador vs. Nova Scotia.

Draw 17, 9:30 p.m.
Canada vs. Saskatchewan; Ontario vs. Manitoba; Alberta vs. Nova Scotia; New Brunswick vs. British Columbia.

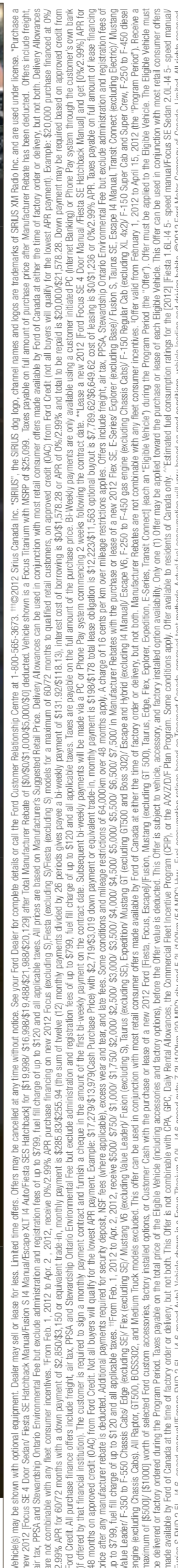
NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Miami	25	7	.781	—
d-Chicago	26	8	.765	—
Orlando	21	12	.636	4½
d-Philadelphia	20	12	.625	5
Indiana	19	12	.613	5½
Atlanta	19	13	.594	6
New York	16	17	.485	9½
Boston	15	16	.484	9½
Cleveland	12	17	.414	11½
Milwaukee	13	19	.406	12
Detroit	11	22	.333	14½
New Jersey	10	24	.294	16
Toronto	9	23	.281	16
Washington	7	25	.219	18
Charlotte	4	27	.129	20½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Oklahoma City	25	7	.781	—
d-San Antonio	23	9	.719	2
Dallas	21	12	.636	4½
d-L.A. Clippers	19	11	.633	5
L.A. Lakers	19	13	.594	6
Houston	19	14	.576	6½
Memphis	18	15	.545	7½</



Engine

The heart of the transformation to R-Spec from an ordinary Genesis sedan sits between the front fenders. The displacement of the automaker's Tau-branded V8 has been increased to 5.0-litres from 4.6 and the horsepower/torque rating to 429 and 376 pound-feet from 385/333. For comparison, that's 17 horses more than the much-celebrated-by-Ford-fans 5.0 in the Mustang GT.

The new Hyundai R-Spec, is now the only Genesis V8 model available in Canada and employs the same powerplant as the larger and more luxurious Equus.

Bells and whistles

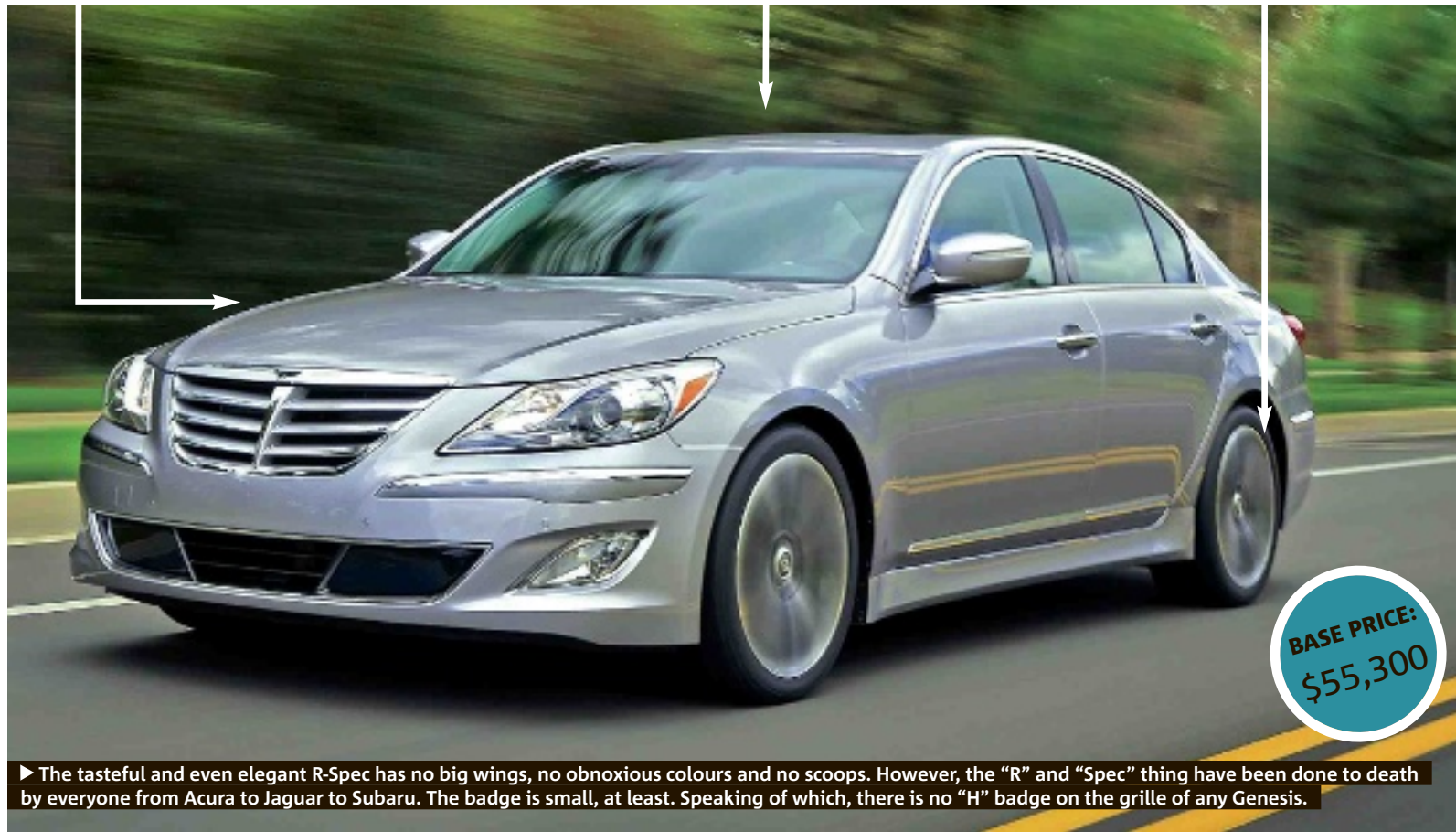
The R-spec theme continues inside with "tuxedo black" leather combined with bright trim surrounding the control panel and shifter.

And of course Hyundai's bells-and-whistles department has included most of the desirable items. That means you can count on a standard power sunroof, memory settings for the power front seats, heated front and rear seats plus steering wheel, woodgrain trim, front and rear park assist, backup camera and a 17-speaker premium sound package.

Performance

Despite the power bulge, the R-Spec still returns reasonable fuel economy of 13.1 l/100 km city and 8.1 highway.

On the performance front, Hyundai expects the R-Spec to run zero-to-60-m.p.h. (96 km/h) in the low-five-second range, which is pretty decent for a hefty 1,880-kilogram sedan.



► The tasteful and even elegant R-Spec has no big wings, no obnoxious colours and no scoops. However, the "R" and "Spec" thing have been done to death by everyone from Acura to Jaguar to Subaru. The badge is small, at least. Speaking of which, there is no "H" badge on the grille of any Genesis.

What does R-Spec spell?



MALCOLM GUNN
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA
WHEELBASE MEDIA

In Aretha Franklin's monster hit, she cried out for a little "R-E-S-P-E-C-T." The one thing you could say about that song and Hyundai's similarly named Genesis "R-Spec" sedan is that they both have plenty of soul.

Hyundai has confounded more than a few critics with the success of its full-size rear-wheel-drive four-door that was launched for the 2009 model year.

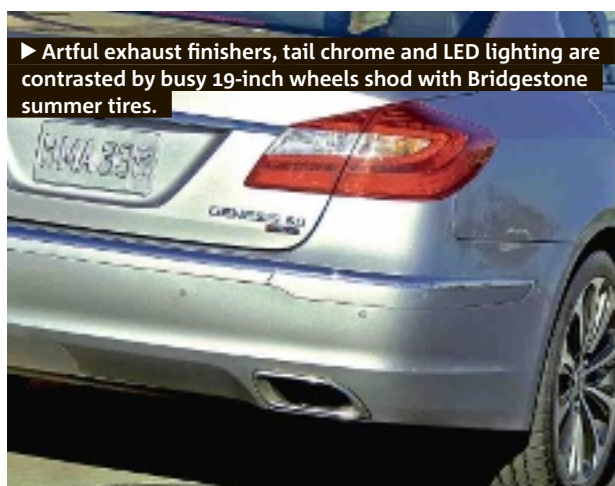
How could the company that brought us the lowly Excel and subsequent econo-runners dare to think that it could run with the big dogs from Detroit, Germany and Japan?

The Genesis was a gutsy call for the Korea-based automaker, especially when fuel prices were surging and the economy was losing steam. But the car's luxury leanings and comparatively modest price tag (likely aided by a reassuringly lengthy warranty) have allowed the Genesis to carve out a niche. It also spawned the larger and even more luxurious Equus.

For 2012, Hyundai is branching out the Genesis, taking it on a path that involves the development of a performance brand dubbed the R-Spec. Forget the rather unoriginal "R" and "Spec" to denote performance, and consider that this car actually has real performance.



► For a sport package, the most obvious omission is the lack of metal foot pedals. The rest looks like it could come from Infiniti or Acura, which are likely competitors to the R-Spec.



► Artful exhaust finishers, tail chrome and LED lighting are contrasted by busy 19-inch wheels shod with Bridgestone summer tires.

Genesis R-Spec



What you should know about the 2012 Hyundai Genesis R-Spec:

- **Types:** Four-door, rear-wheel-drive full-size sedan.
- **Engine (hp):** 5.0-litre DOHC V8 (429).
- **Transmission:** Eight-speed automatic.
- **Market position:** The R-Spec label denotes significantly improved performance in much the same way that BMW's "M" cars and Mercedes-Benz's AMG denotes added sporting flavour. None compete at the R-Spec's price, though.
- **Mileage:** L/100 km (city/hwy) 13.1/8.1.

By comparison

Chrysler 300c

Base price: \$41,700
Limo-like V8 has 363 hp. 470-hp SRT8 right in R-Spec's price bracket.



Lincoln MKS EcoBoost

Base price: \$55,400
Sedate sedan cruises with 355-hp turbocharged V6 and standard AWD.



Lexus GS 350

Base price: \$53,850
New rear-driver missing 120 horsepower, but AWD, hybrid available.



WHEELBASE MEDIA



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ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASE



► The most effort in the winter is spent on keeping the Trans-Canada Highway open to east-west traffic. Mother Nature has other ideas about that, though.

Rocky roads lay ahead

► Plenty for the Jeep Grand Cherokee to tackle in the Rockies ► The vehicle might be up to it, but is the driver?



MALCOLM GUNN
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA
WHEELBASE MEDIA

WARNING: Road tripping through the Canadian Rockies in winter behind the wheel of anything less competent than a Jeep Grand Cherokee could be hazardous to your health. And given the freakish nature of mountain weather, it could also get you into some big trouble.

For the uninitiated, a winter excursion through this region can turn from a leisurely scenic cruise to blizzarding nightmare in mere minutes. Snow accumulates faster than the national debt and visibility becomes a myopic tunnel that messes with your depth perception as the highway blurs before your eyes. No less than your undivided concentration and complete confidence in your vehicle is required.

Police check-points strategically located along the Trans-Canada Highway, the main artery between the west coast of British Columbia and the Alberta foothills, ensure that, without the proper



► Lake Louise, Alta., is one of the most picturesque spots in Canada and one of the most photographed spots on Earth.

vehicle and/or ice and snow treads underfoot, you'll likely be turned back from whence you came. In these situations, piloting a Grand Cherokee is like carrying an immunity card that gets you waved through from a member of the RCMP.

To examine the full measure of the GC requires driving it in the kind of difficult terrain for which it was intended and that includes snow and lots of it. For that you head to the hills.

But Mother Nature isn't always willing to cooper-

ate, as evidenced by a recent east-to-west pass along the Trans-Canada. She was playing a practical joke by withholding the white, fluffy stuff, leaving all but the highest mountain sections in a bare and bone-dry state. However, the benign conditions provided plenty of opportunity to examine the GC's genteel side. The base-model Laredo loaner came with dual-zone climate control, heated outside mirrors and a nothing-fancy six-speaker audio system. There were a few select extras on board including a

navigation system, power driver's seat and a satellite radio that worked flawlessly except when travelling beneath the half-dozen or so protective concrete avalanche "sheds" located along the route.

Also along for the ride was the Laredo's standard 290-horsepower 3.6-litre V6 that operates with a five-speed automatic transmission plus Jeep's single-range four-wheel-drive system. This version (a dual-range unit comes on up-level GC's) is priced at close to \$40,000, including destination charges.

Engine

- Unless some heavy-duty trailer towing or extra quick sprints to 100 km/h (and beyond) are necessary, the V6 works just fine.
- At 13.0 l/100 km in the city and 8.8 on the highway, it achieves better fuel economy than the previous 210-horsepower V6, and it's way smoother and quieter while also a livelier performer.
- The V6 is obviously no match for the available 360-horsepower "Hemi" V8 or the outlandish 470-horsepower SRT8 in straight-line sprints, but out in the real world the extra dollars needed to acquire either model might not be worth it.

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Ma Nature served up her favourite raw fury dish on the return west-to-east leg, especially while approaching the highway's snow-bound Rogers Pass summit. Around here, the only vehicles still moving were convoys of chained-up transport trucks and one lone ice- and grit-enrusted Grand Cherokee. Over the long, upward climb in blanket-thick snow, the GC seemed in its element, scooting past the big rigs without breaking a sweat or transmitting so much as a hint of traction loss, turning what could have been a white-knuckle, high-drama drive into an enjoyable day on the road.

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2.5X Touring Package shown



2.5i model shown



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SUBARU

Confidence in Motion



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Picks for all models, for the third year in a row.



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Éric Toulouse,
SALES MANAGER

*Ratings of "Good" are the highest rating awarded for 40-mph frontal offset, 31-mph side-impact and 20-mph rear-impact crash tests conducted by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) (www.iihs.org). A "Good" rating obtained in all three crash tests plus a "Good" rating in new roof strength testing and the availability of Electronic Stability Control (ESC) (Vehicle Dynamics Control) achieves a 2012 Top Safety Pick. *Based on ALG's 2011 Residual Value Award for Best Mainstream Brand. †It is possible to travel up to 1,000 km on one tank of fuel based on manufacturer-estimated fuel economy of 5.5L/100 km (highway) for a 2012 Subaru Impreza equipped with continuously variable automatic transmission and a 55L fuel tank capacity. Actual fuel consumption will vary based on driving conditions, driver habits and vehicle load. ‡Comparison based upon Natural Resources Canada's estimated highway fuel economy for all 2011 AWD vehicles. *MSRP of \$19,995/\$25,995/\$26,395/\$28,995 on 2012 Impreza 2.0i (CF1 BP)/Forester 2.5X (CJ1 X0)/Legacy 2.5i Convenience Package (CA2 CP)/Outback 2.5i (CD1 CP). Lease for \$249/\$298/\$328/\$375 a month for 24/24/48/48 months with \$2,495/\$2,876/\$2,495/\$2,495 down. 1.9%/0.9%/2.9%/2.9% lease rate. \$3,100.63/\$3,588.28/\$3,190.57/\$3,242.60 due at signing. Option to purchase at end of lease is \$14,086/\$18,258/\$12,263/\$12,836. Advertised pricing consists of MSRP plus charges for Freight/PDI (\$1,595), Air Tax (\$100), Tire Stewardship Levy (\$29.20), OMVIC Fee (\$5), Dealer Admin (\$199). Freight/PDI charge includes a full tank of gas. Taxes, licence, registration and insurance are extra. \$0 security deposit. Models shown: 2012 Forester 2.5X Touring Package (CJ1 TP). MSRP of \$29,095. 2012 Legacy 2.5i (CA1 BP). MSRP of \$23,995. Dealers may sell or lease for less or may have to order or trade. Offers applicable on approved credit at participating dealers only. Lease based on a maximum of 24,000 km per year, with excess charged at \$0.10/km. Leasing and financing programs available through Subaru Financial Services by TCCL. Other lease and finance rates and terms available; down payment or equivalent trade-in may be required. Vehicles shown solely for purposes of illustration, and may not be equipped exactly as shown. Offers available until February 29, 2012. See Subaru Outaouais for complete program details.

All prices include freight and fees. Excludes HST and licensing.

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Toyota 4Runner built 4 family confidence

SECOND GEAR



The last generation Toyota 4Runner was a sport utility vehicle (SUV) built with an appetite for towing, real off-road capability and plenty of all-season confidence.

Family ready and confident on any road or trail, 4Runner offered plenty of options, a high-class cabin and an entire aftermarket's worth of parts for customization.

2003-'09 Toyota 4Runner



Engine

Engine choices started with a four-litre, 245 horsepower V6 or a 4.7-litre V8. The V6 engine was eventually de-rated to 236 horsepower, while the V8 was bumped to 260.



What owners like

Owner praise for the last-generation 4Runner mainly comes from cargo carrying capacity, driving confidence and rugged styling. Many owners report a comfortable and quiet ride, too.



What owners dislike

Gripes are limited almost entirely to the fuel mileage complaints typical from most SUV owners. If you don't need an off-road capable 4x4, consider a minivan or smaller crossover.



Common issues

If you're buying an earlier model 4Runner in this generation, ensure the frame is relatively free of rust. Toyota had some very well-documented structural frame rust issues for several years, though these seem to have been corrected by time the last-generation 4Runner came around.

Signs of heavy off-road use may include excessive mud or sand packed into the vehicle's lower radiator area or underside. Get underneath and check for heavy denting or scrapes in the floor and frame rails. These could be a sign of abuse.

Verdict

If the used 4Runner model you're considering checks out, you're likely looking at a reliable, capable sidekick that'll serve your family for years to come.

Newly licensed drivers still have plenty to learn

► New study shows why you should continue to teach your teenagers

DRIVING FORCE

JIL MCINTOSH
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

Young drivers who finish driving school and pass their tests might think their lessons are finished. In reality, they are only just starting the learning process.

According to a new study by the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety in the U.S., teenagers are 50 per cent more likely to crash in their first month of driving than after they've been behind the wheel for a year.

"You do better at any job once you've learned the skills," says Carol Ronis, senior manager of communications for the Foundation.

"Practice is important, and parents can engage in helping their teens continue to learn how to drive and shape them for a life-

From a young age

Children learn by mimicking. Even if your child is too young to drive, he or she is still learning driving habits by watching you. If you run red lights, speed or text, your children may carry those lessons over when it's time for them to get behind the wheel.

time of safe driving."

More than half of these early crashes boil down to three common errors: failure to reduce speed, inattention, and failure to yield, especially on left-hand turns.

"Certain types of crashes initially occur at high rates and decline very quickly, such as the left-hand turn," Ronis says.

"You have to look right and left, you have to look across, you're entering into traffic, and you have to gauge a bunch of different factors. It's just a matter of learning and gaining the



► C'mon buddy, it's supposed to be two hands on the wheel.

experience."

Taking young drivers on unfamiliar routes or at different times of the day is important, Ronis says.

"We see the novice driver under the supervised stage who is usually running errands or driving on the same road," she says.

"Once they have their independent license, they'll go ahead and take

the highway, but mom and dad never practiced on the highway, or had them driving at night. You have to take them beyond their comfort zone."

A related study used in-vehicle cameras, which found that teenagers' behaviour changed when there were no adults in the car.

Although most driving

was uneventful, the camera did capture a number of close calls due to mistakes caused by inexperience, along with running red lights, horseplay with passengers and texting behind the wheel.

"Continue to stay involved and continue to have a dialogue with your child about safe driving habits," Ronis says, who

suggests that parents occasionally ride along even after a young driver has achieved an independent license.

"Talk about what he's doing wrong, whether it's a fundamental skill, or running a red light or not stopping at a stop sign. You're creating the tools so they can master the art of driving."

More Power. Less Fuel. Great Value is a comparison between the entire current Chrysler Canada lineup and the entire 2011 Chrysler Canada lineup. Wise customers read the fine print: * The Power Into 2012 Event offers are limited time offers which apply to retail deliveries of selected new and unused models purchased from participating dealers between February 1 and 29, 2012. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Offers subject to change and may be extended without notice. See participating retailers for complete details and conditions. • \$20,895 Purchase Price applies to the new 2012 Jeep Wrangler 2-door Sport 4x4 (230) and includes \$2,000 Consumer Cash Discount, \$18,695 Purchase Price applies to the new 2012 Jeep Compass Sport 4x2 (25D) and includes \$1,750 Consumer Cash Discount, \$17,695 Purchase Price applies to the 2012 Jeep Patriot Sport 4x2 (25D) only and includes \$1,750 Consumer Cash Discount. See participating retailers for complete details. Pricing includes freight (\$1,400-\$1,500), air tax (if applicable), tire levy and OMVIC fee. Pricing excludes licence, insurance, registration, any retailer administration fees, other retailer charges and other applicable fees and taxes. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Retailer may sell for less. *Consumer Cash Discounts are offered on select 2011/2012 vehicles and are manufacturer-to-retailer incentives, which are deducted from the negotiated price before taxes. Amounts vary by vehicle. See your retailer for complete details. †4.99% purchase financing for up to 96 months available on the new 2012 Jeep Wrangler 2-door Sport 4x4 (230) model to qualified customers on approved credit through Royal Bank of Canada and Scotiabank. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Retailer may sell for less. See your retailer for complete details. Example: 2012 Jeep Wrangler 2-door Sport 4x4 (230) with a Purchase Price of \$20,895 (including Consumer Cash Discount) financed at 4.99% over 96 months with \$0 down payment, equals 208 bi-weekly payments of \$122 with a cost of borrowing of \$4,490 and a total obligation of \$25,385.24. Pricing includes freight (\$1,400-\$1,500), air tax (if applicable), tire levy and OMVIC fee. Pricing excludes licence, insurance, registration, any retailer administration fees, other retailer charges and other applicable fees and taxes. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Retailer may sell for less. †2012 Jeep Patriot Limited 4x4 with optional Freedom Drive II® Off-Road Group shown. Price including applicable Consumer Cash Discount: \$24,845. Pricing includes freight (\$1,400-\$1,500), air tax (if applicable), tire levy and OMVIC fee. Pricing excludes licence, insurance, registration, any retailer administration fees, other retailer charges and other applicable fees and taxes. See bottom of the ad for range of potential retailer fees. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Retailer may sell for less. †Based on 2012 EnerGuide Fuel Consumption Guide ratings published by Natural Resources Canada. Transport Canada test methods used. Your actual fuel consumption may vary. 2012 Jeep Compass Sport 4x2 2.0 L 5-speed manual - Hwy: 6.8 L/100 km and City: 9.1 L/100 km. 2012 Jeep Patriot Sport 4x2 2.0 L 5-speed manual - Hwy: 6.8 L/100 km and City: 9.1 L/100 km. †Jeep is a registered trademark of Chrysler Group LLC.

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2012 Jeep Wrangler 2-door Sport shown.

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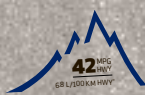


2012 Jeep Compass Sport 4x2 shown.

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2012 Jeep Patriot Limited 4x4 with optional Freedom Drive II® Off-Road Group shown.†

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ELECTRIC DRIVE AN EVOLUTION, NOT A REVOLUTION

AUTO PILOT



MIKE GOETZ
DRIVE
@METRONEWS.CA

Some things just take their own sweet time, and there's nothing you can do about it. Oh sure, you can tackle that person in front of you at Tim's, who is just about to order coffee and carbohydrates for her entire construction crew, but in the long run, will it really get you your double-double any quicker?

KPMG just released a report on electric vehicle sales, and it appears they will take their own sweet

time, too. In fact, KPMG feels they will stall for more than a decade.

They made this pronouncement after surveying 200 global automotive executives late last year. Other bullet points derived from the survey:

- Electromobility is not predicted to exceed 15 per cent of new car registrations globally by 2025.

- Executives in North America and Western Europe expect even less adoption of electromobility in the short term, projecting E-vehicles will only account for six to 10 per cent of global annual sales.

- Nearly two-thirds say that optimization of the internal combustion engine offers greater efficiency and the most potential for carbon emission reduction than the current tech-

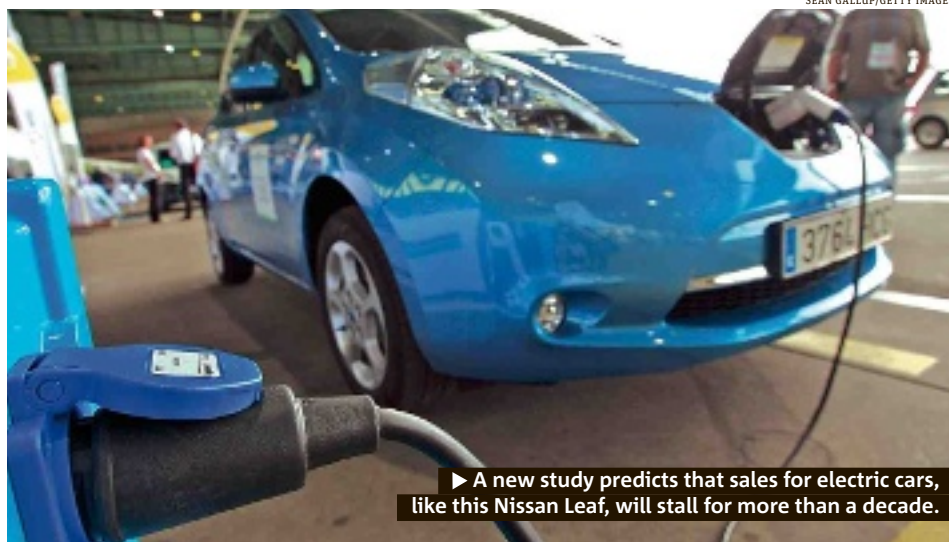
nologies over the next five years.

When electromobility's success is characterized as stalling and/or not meeting expected adoption levels, it feels like some were expecting it to take over in some quick and dramatic way, and that their current niche-like adoption rate is some sort of failure. Where did that thinking come from?

Electric vehicles are really brilliant for specified transportation tasks, and decidedly less so for others.

I think we need to view and/or market the pure electric car as more of a specific type of vehicle, than the car that will surely take over the world at some point.

It has a place, and will make its place larger as technology allows, but it's



SEAN GALLUP/GETTY IMAGES

► A new study predicts that sales for electric cars, like this Nissan Leaf, will stall for more than a decade.

still designed to hit a specific target, just as other vehicle "types" are, be they high-performance sports cars, heavy-duty pickups with dualies, or white Cadillacs destined

for Florida.

Besides, anyone who thinks a tiny electric car is going to kick petrochemical's butt in the near future has to be smoking something.

In the U.S. alone, they consume about 1.5 BILLION litres of gasoline EVERY DAY. How can anything replace those kinds of petrochemical-driven miles over the next five to 10 years?

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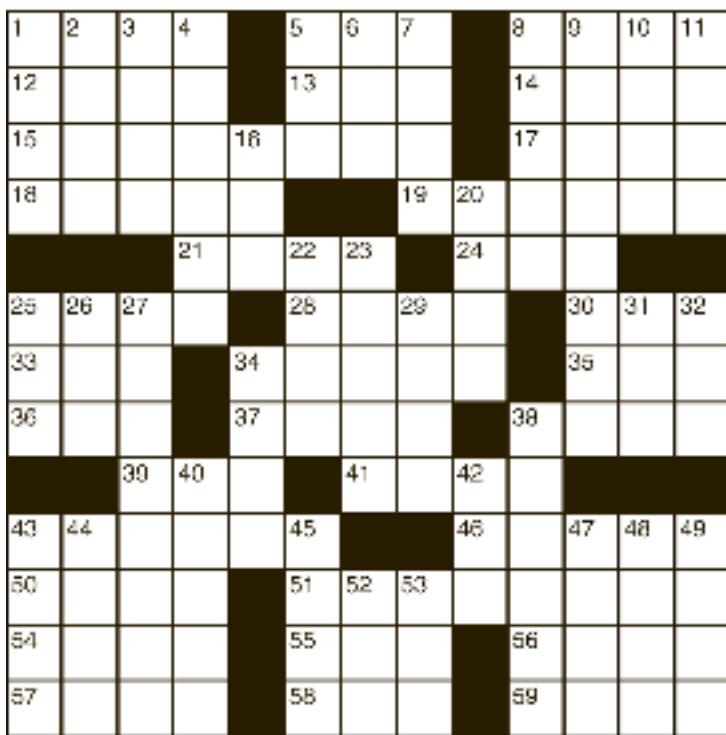
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Crossword

Across

- 1 Snake's tooth
5 Billboards
8 Song's ending
12 Waikiki wingding
13 Floral garland
14 Press
15 Going around the Earth
17 Fit of peevishness
18 Rigatoni, e.g.
19 Greek underworld goddess
21 — and crafts
24 — de plume
25 Heath
28 Re planes
30 Sprite
33 Bobby of hockey
34 Oust
35 Keanu, in "The Matrix"
36 Cribbage scorer
37 Give as an example
38 Impale
39 "That feels so good!"
41 Lotion additive
43 Horse-drawn cab
46 Reserved
50 Egyptian wading bird
51 Conventional
54 Dimension
55 Pod occupant
56 Portrayal
57 Undo a dele
58 Early bird?
59 "Woe is me!"
Down
1 Dud
2 Emanation
3 Arrests
4 Elvis' instrument



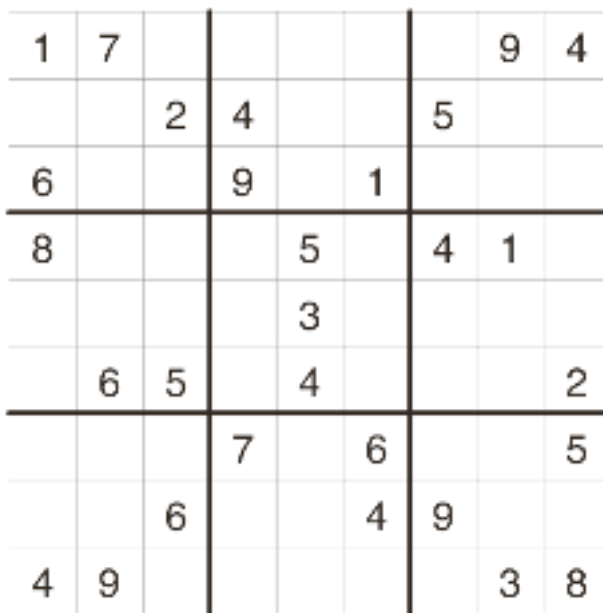
- 5 "The Greatest"
6 Lair
7 Sound of relief
8 Lake herring
9 Decoration
10 — -yourself kit
11 Initial chip
16 Pitch
20 Certain compound
22 Urban transport
23 Dividing walls
25 Swab the deck
26 Raw rock
27 Arrange systematically
29 Spool
31 Grazing land

- 32 Watch chain
34 Reverberate
38 Lady of Spain
40 Item in the plus column
42 "— la la!"
43 Greet the villain
44 Slightly
45 Sulk
47 "American —"
48 Pop flavor
49 Former spouses
52 Rule, for short
53 It's game?

► Yesterday's answer



Sudoku



How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

7	9	2	1	4	8	3	5	6
3	8	6	2	7	5	9	4	1
4	5	1	9	6	3	8	2	7
5	1	9	7	3	4	2	6	8
8	2	4	6	1	9	5	7	3
6	3	7	5	8	2	1	9	4
2	4	8	3	5	7	6	1	9
9	6	3	4	2	1	7	8	5
1	7	5	8	9	6	4	3	2

Yesterday's answer ►

Today

4°/-2°
 Partly sunny

Thursday

4°/-2°
 Flurries
 40%

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Today's horoscope

♈ Aries March 21-April 20
You don't have to pretend you know all the answers. No one will think less of you for getting a few things wrong.
♉ Taurus April 21-May 21
Someone whose power exceeds your own may seem threatening but planets indicate there is nothing he or she can do to hurt you.
♊ Gemini May 22-June 21
If you want to get on in the world, you need to accept that setbacks and failures are inevitable.
♋ Cancer June 22-July 22
You may feel deflated after the events of the past few days but there are a few surprises in store.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug. 23
The planets warn there are people in your social circle who would take advantage of your generosity.
♍ Virgo Aug. 24-Sept. 22
If you fall behind in your schedule at work, you'll have to do a lot of catching up and making up later.
♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23
There are things going on behind the scenes that you cannot possibly know about, but you can sense that changes are coming.
♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22
You cannot make up your mind which of two paths you should be following. Only one can lead to the inner peace you crave. Take it.

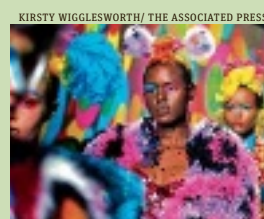
For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21
There are a number of loose ends that need to be dealt with right away. Invest the time needed.
♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20
If you let negative thoughts gain a foothold, they will be extremely hard to get rid of again.
♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18
You can see that a different approach is needed on the romantic front. It's not a sign of weakness to show your feelings occasionally.
♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20
You may hear something you are not supposed to hear today. If so, keep the information to yourself.
● SALLY BROMPTON

Caption contest



"What do you think of my makeover?" **EVAN CHONG**



You write it!

WIN! Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in Tuesday's Metro.



